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No. 5

Let Parliament Apply for an Enabling Act

An Editorial on the Wheat Board by H. W. Wood

The Conventions of the three Prairie Provinces and the Canadian Council of Agriculture asked for the re-establishment of the 1919 Wheat Board. It was asked for as a temporary measure to give some degree of relief to present agricultural distress. The Government did not take the responsibility of deciding for or against the measure, but it was turned over to the law officers of the Crown, who expressed the opinion that it was beyond the powers of Parliament to re-establish the Board.

This was the opinion of the lawyers. We knew all the time that the Board's strict conformity to constitutional technicalities was questionable. The same can be said of many acts now in force, including the Canada Grain Act. If the Government had decided the case on its merits and given us the Wheat Board accordingly, the probabilities are that the temporary necessity would have been met before its constitutionality was questioned.

It is a clear case of sacrificing the interests of the people and the welfare of the country to inflexible technicalities. Figuratively it is a case of using a pitchfork—a useful tool—to stab your neighbor. If it is a crime to permit the operation of a law which might be questioned on constitutional grounds, the Government is committing a criminal offense in permitting the Canada Grain Act to continue in operation.

Besides, there has been no decision, but only an opinion, as to the constitutionality of re-establishing the Board. Lawyers, and even Supreme Court judges, frequently differ on such matters. The Supreme Court might render a decision different to the advice given to the Government. The Privy Council, in turn, might differ with the Supreme Court. In the case of the Grain Inquiry Board, the initial court decided that the Board was ultra vires, while the Supreme Court decided differently.

After all, most of these things, in the final analysis, are matters of opinion. The important question before us in this time of great agricultural distress is whether we are going to get relief in a practical way, or be bound hand and foot with the red tape of legal technicalities.

Constitutions are, or should be, made to protect human rights and social well-being, but it is impossible to frame a fixed set of principles in detail that will cover all cases and be adequate to meet all emergencies. On the assumption that a constitution is fixed, unchangeable and inviolable, it is sometimes conveniently assumed that the interest of the people must be twisted, bent or broken to fit unyielding, cast-iron, technical details, that were never intended to serve so unholy a purpose.

In the case in hand, if as much zeal were displayed in fearlessly meeting a situation in the most practical way as there has been in pressing for a technical decision, it is probable that an enabling act of the Imperial Parliament could be obtained in ample time to permit the Wheat Board to function in the sale of the 1922 crop. In fact, it is safe

to assume that any reasonable request for a special act that might be asked for by the Canadian Parliament would be granted immediately by the Imperial Parliament as a matter of course, as that Parliament is not disposed to stand in the way of any reforms desired by and in the best interests of the Dominions. The essential autonomy of Canada would be respected. No general amendment of the British North America Act would be called for in this instance, but merely a special enabling act of the Imperial Parliament to meet an emergency.

That the Opposition not only are not opposed to the idea of seeking enabling legislation from the Imperial Parliament, if such legislation is necessary to place the regulation of the grain trade under the control of the Dominion Parliament, but would be willing to co-operate to that end, was made very clear by the Conservative leader, Mr. Meighen, in his address against reference to the Supreme Court, as the following quotation from his speech will plainly show:

"Let it be remembered that there has been expressed some doubt as to the power of this Parliament in regard to the entire handling of the grain trade. We may be in some danger there even as we sit now. But the fact is this, the grain trade has become of such a character, it is so inter-provincial, it is so broadly Canadian, that whatever may be the constitution of this country, that trade must be under the control of legislation enacted by this Parliament—under the control of Federal authority. And if there is successful attack that goes to the root of our power in this matter, I for one would be prepared to support legislation which would address the Imperial Parliament in terms requesting an enabling amendment to our constitution."

Mr. Meighen went on to make clear that he was not speaking either for or against the Wheat Board, but simply asking that it be dealt with on its merits.

Why was this action not taken, not only in order to clear the way for the re-establishment of the Wheat Board, if in the opinion of Parliament conditions would justify it, but also to remove the doubt in regard to the constitutionality of the Canada Grain Act?

Assuming that the Agricultural Committee should still decide that conditions justify it in asking for the re-establishment of the Wheat Board, it would seem that a practical way to proceed would be so to report to Parliament. Then Parliament could pass the necessary legislation, and in order to clear away all obstacles, petition the Imperial Parliament to pass an enabling act to bring this legislation into force.

Should this petition be granted the Wheat Board could begin operations in time to handle the crop of 1922. Should the petition be refused, we will then know definitely that we cannot hope to re-establish the Wheat Board through Federal legislation, and that the only authority through which a Board can be established is that of the Provincial Legislatures.

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Vol. I.

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No. 5

The Problem of Road Building in Alberta

BY HON. ALEX. ROSS

There is no more interesting and important subject to write about at this time than road building; interesting because the problems arising out of road construction are many and diversified—important because we have now reached a stage of development when good roads are an urgent necessity.

The cry for good roads has in the last few years assumed national importance owing to the fact that motor driven vehicles are now playing such an important part in our social and economic life. The automobile knows no boundary line. Consequently, we have many urgent pleas for national and interprovincial highways designed to meet commercial and tourist needs.

The Greater Need

While realizing the value of such highways to the Province our desire to meet the needs should not obscure what ought to be regarded as a greater need, that of providing roads for settlers to enable them economically to market their produce. Agriculture being the basic industry of the Province, the industry from which we derive the major portion of our wealth, we must, therefore, consider the need of this industry as of primary importance. During the last few years there has been a tendency to ignore that fact, a condition brought about by the enactment of The Canada Highways Act of 1919. The Canada Highways Act evidently was designed to encourage the Provinces to build roads of a national and interprovincial character rather than to supply a local need. This may have been a desirable object, and practicable in older settled Provinces where the local needs were already met, but not so practicable in the Western Provinces, where the pioneer is still in need of roads over which to transport his produce to a market.

As the Province is being urged to take advantage of the grants made under the Canada Highways Act it may be of some interest to your readers to know under what conditions these grants are given. The act reads "for the purpose of constructing and improving highways in Canada the Governor-in-Council may au-

thorize the payment out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada of the sum of \$20,000,000 during the period of five years from the First day of April, 1919. Grants shall be allotted and paid to the respective Provinces in proportion to the population of the said Provinces, as determined by the latest Federal census for each Province. The amount available for Alberta is \$1,477,810.00 to be paid on progress estimates equivalent to 40 per cent of the cost of the work done.

Conditions Accepted by Late Government

The conditions under which grants are made are that "Any highway for which aid is granted shall be constructed or improved, as the case may be, in accordance with the terms of an agreement, to be made by the Minister with the Government of the Province." Each Province is

expected to file a project plan showing the route and quality of the roads they desire to build in order to participate in the grant. The Alberta Government filed a general route map with a program and specifications, which were approved of by the Federal Government, May 15th, 1920, but no agreement was ever entered into between the two parties. Alberta has, therefore, not made a serious attempt to earn the grant under the Federal Highways Act other than to file a route map and specifications. The route map filed by the last Government on which they contemplated earning the grant was on a system of highways designed to meet commercial and tourist traffic, rather than a system of essential market roads. These route maps have been accepted by the Federal Government, so we are, therefore, obligated to continue that program initiated by our predecessors or ask permission to withdraw it and submit a new scheme entirely.

Is Outlay Warranted?

Were we to complete the program which we inherited it would mean an expenditure of three million dollars on highways that are not considered by the farmer to be so important as market roads. There are 1,585 miles of partly constructed highways which would cost \$1,050 per mile to bring it up to the specifications submitted by our predecessors, and 890 miles of new road at an average cost of \$2,100 per mile. Our problem now is, are we warranted in expending all that money on main highways and neglecting market roads because obviously both cannot be done on such an extensive scale without serious objections from the taxpayers? There are 166,000 miles of road allowance in those parts of the Province already settled, thousands of miles of which the pioneer is anxiously waiting for us to help him to make passable. Are we therefore justified in spending \$1,000,000 per year on highways already fairly passable?

A Financial Question

Fundamentally it is a financial question, as our funds are limited and we

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HON. ALEX. ROSS

Minister of Public Works in the Alberta Government. Mr. Ross is one of the Labor Members from the City of Calgary.

The New Canadian Parliament in Session

By the U.F.A. Members in the House of Commons

The House continues to hear frequently of the Oriental peril in British Columbia. The British Columbia members are a unit on this question and if they do not impress the House with the seriousness of the situation, it will not be because of silence on their part. Among the coast members is a tall, stoop-shouldered, emaciated gentleman, named Neill, who has the ability to convulse the House almost every time he takes the floor. His dry humor is a delight, the more so as the gentleman himself appears to be absolutely unconscious of it. Indeed, the more the House laughs at the curious twists he gives incidents and explanations, the more tiredly gloomy he becomes.

The Maritimers Fraternize

From the other coast also comes a group of various political faiths, all united on one question, that of giving back to the Maritime Provinces their beloved Intercolonial Railway.

It was curious to see a tall Conservative, in the midst of a debate, cross the Chamber, come to anchor at the desk of a life long Liberal, and a redoubtable champion of the rights of the Maritime Provinces in this matter, confer with him and give him what evidently was a coaching on the question.

A resolution introduced by Mr. Marciel (Bonaventure) advocating the electrification of the Canadian Northern system, evoked considerable discussion, and received a good hearing.

We from the West were handicapped at first by our lack of knowledge of the French language, in which Mr. Marciel spoke. Soon, however, that champion of public ownership of railways, "Daddy" Maclean, speaking from the Conservative benches, delighted the House with his fund of knowledge on the subject of public ownership and indicated that he was willing to pin his hope of redeeming the National System from its present bankrupt condition on the speedy electrification of it.

Water Power and Public Ownership

Listening to the debate, one could not but be impressed with the possibilities that lie in the development of the great water power going to waste at this time, not only in the East, but throughout even the Prairie Provinces. It would be well to consider the development of this great source of energy from a public ownership point of view, rather than to contemplate their alienation to private exploitation. This question deserves earnest consideration.

It was discovered on the introduction of Mr. Woodsworth's "Labor Bill" for second reading that the Military Service Act, which the Bill sought to repeal, had exhausted itself and had become non-existent long before. In the discussion thereon, however, Mr. Lapointe unhappily took a little political dig at the opposition, bringing a quick retort from Mr. Meighen, and precipitated the House into one of those frequent periods of turbulent political inuendo and recrimination, out of which, on this occasion, Quebec arose victorious.

Duncan Marshall's Appointment

The civil estimates of the Department of Agriculture were introduced on the

The article by the U.F.A. members published on this page deals with the progress of legislation up to the Easter recess. Later developments, concerning the Wheat Board and other important matters, are discussed elsewhere in this issue.

evening of April 3rd, and much to the surprise of the Alberta members, Mr. Meighen straightway viciously attacked the appointment of Mr. Duncan Marshall to a post described as being unnecessary and wholly against the provisions and spirit of the Civil Service Act. Mr. Crerar elicited the information that the position was only a temporary appointment, and was expected to last somewhere about six months.

Mr. Marshall, it seems, is to continue to trot the Globe. He has but returned from Florida, where he is stated to have done some work in connection with immigration. On this point Mr. Meighen waxed sarcastic, asking the minister to make a note of any immigrant that arrives from Florida, and to let him know. It is now planned to send Mr. Marshall to the Argentine, Brazil, Chili and even Patagonia, presumably to look into the markets for pure bred cattle. In answer to a question by an Alberta member, Mr. Motherwell explained that his reason for appointing Mr. Marshall, and not one of the experienced Civil Servants, was, that not one of them was available at the time, owing to the pressure of public business.

Considerable criticism of the experimental farms was expressed; one member referring to the one at Ottawa as a "show place" devoted to pretty grounds and flower gardens. The grants of money to agricultural exhibitions is to be reduced by at least 20 per cent and possibly by 50 per cent.

New Department of Defence

The discussion on Mr. Graham's resolution (Minister of Militia and Defence) looking to the consolidation of the various Departments of Militia, Naval, Air, etc., under one Department of Defence, was not contentious and received the support of the Progressives insofar as it aimed at increasing efficiency and reducing expenses.

It was generally recommended, however, that the R.C.M.P. be not placed under this Department, but left under the Department of Justice, and when Mr. Graham again reported the Bill he himself moved that the wording of the latter be altered so as to exclude the police from the operations of the Bill. This met with very general approval although one member advised doing away with the R.C.M.P. altogether.

Whenever an opportunity arises the House continues the discussion on civil estimates. In this discussion the Progressives find themselves for the most part handicapped by two considerations:

First, a lack of detailed knowledge of the requirements of the various departments; and

Second, the fact that many of the Ministers, who are new to their departments, have not had a fair opportunity to bring about better and more efficient

conditions therein, thus rendering unfair any general criticism at this time.

Mr. Meighen and the Conservatives have no such qualms. They daily sail into any and all of the Ministers, except that wonderful old man, Mr. Fielding, who got his estimates through without discussion, and, indeed, the official opposition appear to take particular delight in picking out all the new and nervous Ministers and embarrassing them as far as may be possible. There is, however, something of value in this type of criticism insofar as it serves to teach us much that we wish to learn of the costs of civil administration.

A Plea for Special Privilege

On April 5th, Mr. Logan, the handsome giant from the Maritime Provinces, with a thick cord on his eyeglasses, introduced a resolution asking that all goods under the British Preferential Tariff coming into Canada, must come by a Canadian port. It was evident from the outset that the resolution was of a narrow and provincial character and asked for a form of special privilege which would have been a source of loss to the Dominion. Mr. Logan used the flag to some extent, but the whole presentation was torn to pieces by Mr. Crerar and Mr. Evans, and the resolution was withdrawn.

Those who looked for a short, dull session, are probably already feeling disappointed. There have been but few dull moments and a general air of watchful preparedness pervades the House at all times. The work is accumulating to such a degree that one member was heard to remark recently that if justice were to be done to all the business before Parliament, it would be necessary to sit the year round.

House of Secrets and Whisperings

This is a House of secrets and whisperings and rumors. One prevailing rumor at this time is that the Liberal Government would welcome an election, because of the impossibility, from a party point of view, of its present situation, and the belief that a general election would return the Liberals with considerably increased strength. This is discounted as being a rumor with a purpose, as it is hard to find the purpose, other than the obvious one.

Mr. King, in reply to Mr. Meighen the other day, said that the redistribution might well stand until the next session. This does not please many of the Progressives and one of them has placed on the order paper a resolution asking for redistribution at this session. There is no doubt that this demand will be a popular one, especially in the West. It will be interesting to observe how Mr. King will meet it.

Another matter that has been receiving some attention is that of liquor importation. The Government has the question under consideration, but has not arrived at a final decision. It is, however, fairly well understood that no steps will be taken at this session to alter the present regulations.

During the discussion on the Experimental Farms estimates, a strong effort

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The Elimination of Cream Buying Stations and the Future of Dairying

By the Publicity Commissioner for the Alberta Government

Recovery and retention of quality markets for Alberta butter is one of the chief problems engaging the attention of the Provincial Agricultural Department at the present time, and special efforts are being made in that direction. This is the main object in view in the elimination of the cream buying stations in the Province, which is provided for in the amendments to the Dairymen's Act passed at the recent session of the Legislature.

The Department of Agriculture, and the members of the Legislature who supported this move, recognized that it is what might be considered a radical step, but they are convinced from data in possession of the Department, that it is a step in the right direction and that it will accomplish the results desired.

The Object Sought

The great object sought in the elimination of the cream stations is to clear the channel, to straighten out the line, between the producer of quality cream, and the market for quality butter. In other words, it seeks to establish conditions under which the farmer who takes the trouble to put the quality into his cream—and certainly no one else can put it there—will get the full benefit of his efforts by reaching the best markets available and getting the price for his product that he is entitled to.

This will be accomplished, the Department believes, by the elimination of the cream buying stations, which will result in the shipment of cream direct to creameries, and by the establishment of a system of government grading at the central points.

May Have Shipping Agents

The question immediately arises as to how the farmer is to have assurance that his cream will be properly looked after at local points, now that the cream buying stations are done away with.

The officials of the Agricultural Department declare that there is nothing in the new provisions of the act to prevent farmers or creameries from maintaining some one at local points to look after

At the request of "The U.F.A." the official statement published on this page has been prepared by the Publicity Commissioner for the Alberta Government. When the cream buying stations were abolished at the recent session, important differences of opinion were evident among farmers and their representatives in the Legislature, and letters for and against the policy adopted have since been received. In order that the aims of the Department of Agriculture may be fully understood this official explanation is published. Should it be subject to criticism, "The U.F.A." will arrange to publish a further article, setting forth the views of farmers who remain opposed to the abolition of the stations.

cream shipments, to care for them and keep them in proper condition. This statement has been issued after consultation with the Attorney-General's Department. The officials of this Department declare their interpretation of "cream stations" under the old provision, to be, in the spirit of the act, stations for the weighing, sampling, grading and testing of cream, and that they recognize nothing in the new provisions which will prevent the farmers, either co-operatively, or individually, or the creameries themselves, from maintaining agents at local points to look after the shipments.

Estimate Large Direct Saving

The big question, of course, is as to how the elimination of the cream buying stations is going to help the industry and raise the standard of the product. In the first place, it is estimated that the direct saving to the industry will alone constitute a very large item. It has been stated that the old system of cream buying stations cost the industry \$250,000 annually. The new system of restricted service at local points which will be permitted under the amendments, should not cost more than \$50,000, it is estimated. In addition to this, the Legislature has voted \$40,000 for Government grading. This would make a total under the new system of \$90,000, or approximately

\$100,000. If these figures are eventually borne out, it would result in a direct saving of \$150,000 a year.

Furthermore, the improvement in quality under the new system should result, the dairy commissioner confidently believes, in increased revenue of \$150,000 in the first year. This improvement would increase and be cumulative from year to year, increasing the amount of revenue to the industry and resulting in the securing and holding of quality markets for Alberta butter.

Now, how is this improvement in quality going to be brought about? If the new system establishes conditions under which the producer of quality cream has some guarantee that he is going to reach the best markets and get the best possible price, this surely is going to lend encouragement to the production of quality cream. If the farmer realizes that there is no way under the new system that he can get the long price unless he puts the quality into his product—as has been said before, no one can put it there but himself—then he is going to see that the cream he ships out is going to be of the best quality he can produce.

With the uniform and proper application of the grading principle at the creameries, the producer, in the marketing of his cream, has access to and a direct choice of three distinct markets, as expressed through the three standard grades of cream, and the differential price paid by the creamery operator on butterfat in each grade of cream. During the past year, this price differential established by the creameries amounted to three cents per pound of butterfat. This same differential is being paid at the present time; in other words when the price for butterfat in special grade cream is 33 cents per pound, the price per pound of butterfat in firsts is 30 cents, and in seconds 27 cents. Hence each individual cream buyer gives the producer his choice of three distinct markets.

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Chart Showing Deterioration of Grade in Alberta Butter Since 1917



The writer of the article published on this page submits figures showing that the quantity of "special" cream marketed in Alberta has declined from 56.3 per cent. of the total in 1917 to 7.7 per cent. in 1921, while the percentage of "First" and "Second" grade cream has increased. The abolition of the buying stations, it is contended, will lead to an improvement in grades and prices.

The History of Agriculture

By ERNEST A. HOWES, B.Sc.

CHAPTER TWO

The Story of a Greek Farmer

About twenty-three hundred years ago the Spartans gave to a certain Athenian soldier of fortune a grant of land for services rendered. His name was Xenophon, and what we know of him up to the time he took over his farm may be told in a few words.

A staff officer with Cyrus in the disastrous expedition with Persia, he became famous for his brilliant extrication of the army from a dangerous situation. His own people, the Athenians, disowned him because of his association with the Spartans, but the latter rewarded him as just mentioned. We know that he brought to his farming operations a trained mind (for he was an early friend and associate of Socrates), a fair knowledge of standard farm operations, a special knowledge of horses and dogs, and an intense love for outdoor life. So he became a noted farmer of his day, an authority on things agricultural. Not content with being a good farmer, he put in writing the results of his experience, and the story of his ideals and a study of what this old philosopher has to offer may be timely, even in our day and generation.

Since it is not always for the purpose of technical information that we read what Xenophon has written, it is not uninteresting to note his homely method of recording experiences and practices familiar to all of us. Here is an example:

"Always mow with the wind at your back, for it is annoying both to the eyes and the hands to reap in the face of the stalks and ears."

Practical Value of Writings

It must be recognized, however, that a study of the writings of this old Greek farmer is not without its practical value as well. A well-known authority on scientific agriculture in our day has written:

"I fear that the up-to-date farmer—especially if he have a smattering of the sciences and can talk with some degree of near-correctness about nitrates, and phosphates, and bacteria—has little respect for the classics, and would regard it as the sheerest waste of time to dig into the misty pages of these world-old authorities. And yet he might do so to advantage. Not one farmer in ten thousand knows as much about a horse as Xenophon did."

Very well, let us consider his hobby first—no pun is intended.

I wonder if any of us now alive know some man—a friend, perhaps—who, so his neighbors say, keeps more horses than he needs, and who works overtime framing excuses to explain away the weakness. If such there be, he must perforce feel a sympathetic interest in Xenophon's excuses for keeping a superfluity in the way of horses and dogs—did we mention that he had a weakness for dogs, too?

"Again farming offers the greatest convenience for keeping horses, and it also affords some incitement to exertion in hunting over the land, supplying facilities for the keeping of dogs and supporting beasts of game. The horses and dogs, moreover, which are kept by farming, benefit the farm in return, the horse

by carrying his master early in the morning to the scene of his labors and furnishing him the means of returning late; the dogs by preventing wild beasts from destroying the fruits of the earth and the cattle, and by affording security, even in the most solitary places."

Xenophon must have homesteaded. Here is another statement in evidence of his love for the horse:

"It is upon horses that gods and heroes are painted riding; and men who are able to manage them skilfully are regarded as deserving of admiration. So extremely beautiful and admirable and noble a sight is a horse that bears himself superbly, that he fills the gaze of all who see him, both young and old. No one, indeed, leaves him or is tired of contemplating him so long as he continues to display his magnificent attitudes."

Xenophon's Treatises

Xenophon's two treatises, "The General of Horse" and "The Art of Horsemanship," are among the best ever written on the subject, and many parts of them would pass in a scientific journal of today. Indeed, present day veterinarians are not slow to acknowledge his influence in the lore of their profession. Have you ever listened to an exposition upon the points of a horse? Did not the lecturer always begin with the feet? Very well, listen to what this authority wrote in the oldest extant work on the subject in any language:

"The first things which I say you ought to look at are his feet. Just as a house would be good for nothing if it were very handsome above but lacked the proper foundations, so, too, a war-horse, even if all his other points were fine, would yet be good for nothing if he had bad feet; for he could not use a single one of his fine points. The feet should first be tested by examining the horn; thick horn is a much better mark of good feet than thin. Again, one should not fail to note whether the hoofs at toe and heel come up high or low. High ones keep what is called the frog well off the ground, while horses with low hoofs walk with the hardest and softest part of the foot at once, like knock-kneed men. . . . A hollow hoof resounds like a cymbal when it strikes the ground. The bones above the hoofs and above the fetlocks should not be very straight up and down like the goats, for if they have no spring they jar the rider and such legs are apt to get inflamed."

How is that for an exposition upon shape and soundness of hoof and slope of pastern? And so on through his books, he tells all the points of a horse; how to break a colt; how to buy a horse; of stabling and exercise; of grooming and riding and of handling horses of different temperament.

Agriculture on Lofty Plane

However, it is not as a horseman, great as he is, that Xenophon chiefly merits our earnest consideration. It is because he puts agriculture upon a lofty plane that we cannot afford to overlook his message down through the ages. Idealist he may have been, but he strove to carry his ideals into his practice, and that is the best the greatest among us can hope for. He says of agriculture that it is "the most

fitting employment for men of honorable birth," and when we reflect what "birth" meant in his day we are at no loss to realize that he placed agriculture above all professions, even war, and he was no second-rater when it came to fighting either. Can we profit by a consideration of his ideal? Surely we can, when many of us have lived during the period when "farmer" was synonymous in the minds of many with "rube" and "hayseed." But, you say, that day is past. Perhaps it is to a great extent, but granting this, let us still see if there is not a lesson for us to-day.

Why the Basic Industry

What was the source of Xenophon's pride in agriculture? Let him speak for himself:

"When agriculture flourishes all other pursuits are in full vigor; but when the ground is forced to lie barren, other occupations are almost stopped, as well by land as by sea."

There is a lesson here for more than the farmer. Then he goes on to show that agriculture calls for men of industry:

"Agriculture is an art that renders those who understand it rich, but leaves those who do not understand it, however much they may labor in it, to live in poverty."

However, his great pride in agriculture proceeds from a sense of the value of the great outdoors as the fitting home for a man and his family:

"It is less creditable for a man to remain in the house than to attend to things out of doors. The pursuit of agriculture is at once a means of enjoyment and of increasing resources; and it is also an exercise for the body, such as to strengthen it for discharging the duties that become a man of honorable birth. For, though it offers blessings in the greatest plenty, it does not permit us to take them in idleness, but requires us to accustom ourselves to endure the colds of winter and the heats of summer; to those whom it exercises in manual labor it gives an increase of strength; and in such as only oversee the cultivation of it, it produces a manly vigor by requiring them to rise early in the morning and forcing them to move about with activity. . . . Health is a surer attendant on a man when, after he has taken sufficient to eat, he works it off by proper exercise."

We believe that he wrote this last for his boys—he raised two fine lads, popularly known as "the Great Twin Brethren." The elder died gloriously at the battle of Montinea—his father's only comment was "I knew that I begat him mortal." Xenophon lived to be a very old man and to see a fine grandson, named after him who died, grow to young manhood.

Xenophon was proud of farming because it is the father of all human activities, because it challenges the best intellects, and because it offers the most wholesome environment for the maintenance of health and the proper development of the mind and body of the child. Is our pride based on the same foundation? Is it worth our while to try to learn from this old farmer-philosopher? Well, "if you know a better 'ole, go to it."

Causes of Depression in Agriculture and Industry

A SYMPOSIUM OF OPINIONS

PART FIVE

Country Not Poorer But Wealthier Since the War

In illustration of his thesis that distribution and not production is the weak point in our economic arrangement, Mr. Kitson declares that it is entirely contrary to the fact for the people of Great Britain to say that "we emerged from the war far less wealthy than when we entered it." His contention, if justified, must apply with even greater force to Canada. He quotes a well-known statistician, Mr. Edgar Crammond, whose statements have been corroborated by the "Times Engineering Supplement," in disproof of this statement. "The capital productive resources of Great Britain," says Mr. Crammond, "were fifty per cent. greater in 1919 than in 1914," the stimulation of invention and efficiency in productive process during the war being largely responsible for this increase in capital resources. Great Britain, therefore, was far wealthier in productive ability and facilities at the end of the war than at the beginning. "It only required a comparatively short period," Mr. Kitson says, "possibly ten years of this prosperity which had then started to enable her to rid herself entirely of her national debt." Since the bulk of the national debt was owing to citizens of the country in which the debt was incurred, this indebtedness "could not be regarded altogether as a sign of impoverishment."

Declare Evil Lies in Present Control of Credit System

Before proceeding to consider the concrete proposals of Major Douglas, it will be necessary to give a clear definition of credit, as this term is used in the works which are here briefly outlined.

Real and Financial Credit

"It cannot be too clearly emphasized," says Major Douglas, "that real credit is a measure of the effective reserve of energy belonging to a community, and, in consequence, drafts on this reserve should be accounted for by a financial system which reflects that fact. Real credit is a correct estimate of the ability to deliver goods as, when and where required. Financial credit is a correct estimate of ability to deliver money as, when and where required." (The establishment of an harmonious relationship between these two forms of credit is essential, he contends, to a solution of our present problems.)

This conception of the nature of real credit is further elucidated by Mr. A. R. Orage in the Appendix to "Credit-Power and Democracy." He says: "There are two kinds of credit—real credit and financial credit. Real credit is concerned with the probability of the delivery of goods in their various forms. If we say that real credit concerns the supply of goods, while financial credit concerns the supply of money, the distinction may be a little clearer. Real credit is not measured by the actual supply of goods, but by their potential supply. The measure

In the introduction to this series of articles "The U.F.A." quoted the opinion expressed by Professor Cassel at the Brussels Economic Conference of 1920, that the policy of deflation then proposed by financial men would result in an economic breakdown and entail intense suffering in the countries which might adopt it. The Rt. Hon. Reginald McKenna, former Chancellor of the Exchequer in the British Government, in discussing the causes of industrial depression, declared that under prevailing conditions, "We take the first step towards inflation when a bank makes a loan or advance. Monetary deflation by methods which do not touch the causes that have produced the inflation must lead to great disaster. Great business depression and unemployment will ensue." The Manufacturers' Record of Baltimore, a widely read American trade journal, estimates that the policy of deflation pursued by United States bankers, resulting in serious agricultural depression, also caused the discharge of 3,500,000 workmen, and the loss of \$25,000,000,000, a sum much in excess of the whole cost of the war incurred by the United States Government. The writers quoted on this page propose financial reforms which would, they contend, eliminate the evils both of inflation and deflation.

of real credit is, in fact, the correct estimate of ability to produce and deliver goods as and when and where required. A machine has real credit to the amount of the correct estimate formed of its ability to produce goods in demand; so, too, has an industrial plant, an organization of personnel, and, finally, a whole nation. A nation's real credit is the correct estimate of its ability to produce and deliver goods as and when and where required by the potential consumer."

"The real credit of every industrial nation," declares Mr. Kitson, "consists of its productive resources and facilities, which comprise not merely its machinery, tools, plant, etc., but also the skill, education and even the moral character of its people, its climate, natural resources, its forests, minerals, rivers, water supplies, its geographical position, its government, and even its religion. These are not the creation of any one man or of any one class nor of any one age. They are the gift of nature and of generations of past ages. Every citizen should be entitled to a share in what is clearly the inheritance of the whole nation. The great asset of real credit forms the basis of our national wealth, and is the chief means of enabling our industries to turn out goods at the present rate, but is entirely monopolized by those who control financial credit.

"Real credit is concerned with the supply of goods, whilst financial credit is based upon money (legal tender).

"Financial Credit" an Arbitrary Growth

"The real credit of Great Britain can be increased almost indefinitely and is already so enormous that at no time—not even during the war—has it ever been employed to its full capacity. Yet although financial credit is based upon money and demands only money in return for its use, it depends ultimately upon the productive credit of the nation both

for its existence and for its growth. This growth, however, is purely arbitrary and depends upon the sanction of the bankers and financiers who have acquired a monopoly of the use of the nation's financial credit. Indeed, this monopoly is so flagrant and so powerful that the rate at which money may be loaned to the public (to whom it rightfully belongs) is actually dictated week by week by half a dozen men over whose deliberations and actions the government and the public have no more control than over those of any private business concern in Great Britain. Production, and therefore employment, are made dependent upon industry's ability to satisfy the arbitrary demands of the numerically insignificant class who hold this control, and as there is no law by which these credit controllers can be compelled to issue credit or assist trade, both labor and capital are entirely at their mercy."

How Control of Industry by Finance Is Established

The manner in which, he contends, control of industry is established, maintained, and strengthened by those who control the supply of financial credit is described by Major Douglas in "Economic Democracy" and in "Credit-Power and Democracy" in chapters which can only be briefly summarized here. "In highly developed countries," he says, "practically all purchasing power commences life as a credit created by the banks. These credits are created at the instance of manufacturers and dealers; are distributed by them in the shape of wages, salaries and profits, and spent. Trade is thus almost entirely carried on with borrowed money, or credit, although the fact may be hidden at various points. The goods we buy are produced on borrowed money; the money we buy them with goes to extinguish the debt; but itself is derived from credits that have been borrowed from the banks, and, consequently, its value must reappear in selling prices somewhere and be recovered again from the consumer if the banks are to be repaid their advances. It is clear, therefore, that one credit is only cancelled by the creation of another and larger credit."

In slightly different form the matter is dealt with by the Literary Supplement of the London Times, in a review of "Credit-Power and Democracy."

Over-production Theory a Fallacy

"One part of Major Douglas' thesis," says the Literary Supplement, "may be said to be this: In modern industry, in fixing the cost of every article produced two considerations enter—first, all payments made to individuals in the form of wages, salaries, and dividends; and, secondly, all payments in respect of raw materials, bank charges, and other external costs. It is obvious that the first sum must always be smaller than both together; but the first is all that is distributed among the community in the form of purchasing power; consequently, the community will never be in a posi-

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The Provincial Secretary's Page

Information from Central Office for Officers and Members.

MAILING OF "THE U.F.A."

Until arrangements can be completed for the mailing of "The U.F.A." paper direct to individual members of the organization, Locals are requested to give their best co-operation in distribution of the papers. If the Local can feel its way to authorize the secretary to put the copies in the mail to the individual members it would probably be money well invested. Some Locals have decided to re-arrange their meeting dates, so as to occur just after receipt of "The U.F.A.," twice each month, in this way the members get the papers fresh at each meeting, and members living near to any who may be absent, are asked to leave the papers for them at their homes. In this way there is a contact with each member twice a month.

The Central Office has received many letters from Locals expressing their opinion that our paper will be a great asset in holding their membership together, and securing new members.

SEED GRAIN RATE

The special arrangement by which farmers may have seed grain shipped at a reduced rate is worth many thousands of dollars every year to the farmers of this Province.

It is of the utmost importance that Local associations observe the conditions of this arrangement. To fail to do so is to risk loss of the whole system.

The railway schedule describing the arrangement reads as follows:

"Seed Handled Under Grain Growers' Certificate Arrangement.

Receiving agents will not apply the rates named in section 3 unless under the following conditions: (a) Between stations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

A countersigned certificate must be produced, signed by the Secretary of the Provincial Grain Growers' Association, also by the Local secretary and the consignee, with complete information filled in.

Carload shipments for distribution to a number of farmers may be consigned to the local secretary of the Grain Growers' Association, who will present countersigned certificates to cover the entire carload."

The essential things to remember are:
1st. The arrangement is for seed only, not for any other purpose.

2nd. It is designed to restrict the special rate to farmers sowing grain.

3rd. It is designed to exclude any one shipping grain to re-sell whether he calls himself a farmer or a dealer.

4th. Group shipments in which the freight on a carload is shared among the farmers are expected to be handled by the Local secretary who gets the rate on presentation of certificates covering the whole quantity signed by each person who is to receive the grain.

Certificates are sent out on request to local secretaries already countersigned by the Provincial Secretary, so that the whole responsibility for issuing them to persons entitled to same, is placed upon the Local secretary.

Your secretary ought to keep a supply of these certificates on hand in order to save time when they are required.

UNIVERSITY WEEK FOR FARM YOUNG PEOPLE

In the April first issue of "The U.F.A.," Provincial Secretary's Page, an announcement of University Week for Farm Young People appeared. The dates for the Conference are June 6th to 13th, inclusive. Every Local should make an effort to send at least one delegate. By so doing, our Seniors will open the doors of an opportunity which will influence the whole lives of these young people. It is no more than our duty to furnish our future citizens with the best equipment possible. There are so few advantages for our farm boys and girls that we should not deprive them of the privilege of this wonderful experience, even if the effort entails considerable sacrifice. Few of our Locals are in such a position that they absolutely cannot raise at least \$5.00 towards the Junior Conference Fund, and surely there are many who could afford to pay the whole expenses of at least one person. Send the names of your delegates, and a contribution of \$5.00, or more, for each one to the U.F.A. Central Office, Calgary, and also apply to the University of Alberta, Edmonton South, for registration forms for each delegate. Do not delay. There are only five short weeks before the date of the Conference.

COPIES OF MARCH 15th ISSUE OF "THE U.F.A."

Central Office wishes to thank those who returned extra copies of March 15th issue. As the number of the second issue is still insufficient to meet the demand secretaries and others who have a greater number than they require are requested to return the extra copies to Central, when postage will be gladly forwarded.

REQUESTS FOR ADDRESSES

H. W. Leonard, secretary of the Bow River Constituency Association, is receiving numbers of requests for addresses from E. J. Garland, M.P., at various places in the riding. These requests will be met by arranging a trip for Mr. Garland, and an effort will be made to have the dates adhere as closely as possible to those requested; but on account of the time and expense that would be involved, this will not be possible in all cases.

Locals and District Associations desiring meetings for Mr. Garland are requested to notify Mr. Leonard, at Tudor, at an early date. It will be impossible, of course, for Mr. Garland to address any meetings until Parliament prorogues.

TO SAVE TIME OF ANNUAL CONVENTION.

Director Lunn, in addressing Locals recently, has been discussing the possibilities of facilitating the work of the Annual Conventions. He advocates the formation of District Associations in every provincial constituency; resolutions from Locals to go first to the conventions of these associations. Such resolutions as are of local interest could be dealt with immediately, and those of wider importance be sent to the conventions of the Federal Constituency Associations. On those that are passed by these conventions, action could be taken at once in many cases, leaving only those of importance to the organiza-

tion as a whole to come before the Annual Convention. Mr. Lunn thinks that this would result in saving a great deal of time of the Annual Convention. He also advocates that notice of the more important matters to come before the Convention be sent to all Locals early in the Autumn for discussion in Local meetings. Delegates for the Convention would then be prepared to deal with them.

U. F. A. SUNDAY.

U. F. A. Sunday will be observed this year on June 18th. How about arranging now for a speaker? The number of speakers available through Central Office is limited, and Locals are urged, wherever possible, to make arrangements with the local minister or other speaker for the occasion. The sooner arrangements are made the more likely is it that you will secure the speaker the members want, and the better will he be able to prepare his subject for the occasion.

THE VICTORIA QUESTIONNAIRE

In the last issue of "The U.F.A.," the plan adopted by the Victoria Federal Constituency Association to ascertain the view of members on various problems, was described in the Provincial Secretary's Page. The following is the questionnaire sent to all Locals in the constituency by the Constituency Association:

1. What branch of farm industry is your district most interested in? Grain? Cattle? Dairying?

2. Is a Government Wheat Board the best and safest permanent plan for marketing grain? Yes or no? Why?

3. If Government should fail to act what should we do to meet the case?

4. If the farmers should decide to develop a selling system themselves, how should this selling system be organized?

5. What percentage of your members would support this plan?

6. Should the farmer raise that number of cattle only, that he can take care of and finish for export? Yes or no? Why?

7. Assuming that it is not advisable to glut the home market and slump prices, what plan would you suggest to dispose of the surplus in export trade?

8. Do you think that for export selling of wheat and chilled meat or cattle that our commercial organizations such as the U. G. G. could be converted into a selling organization under the pool or patronage dividend plan? If so, how?

9. What percentage of the farmers should be associated with such a plan and how far is your Local prepared to support it?

10. What action is your Local prepared to take to bring this about?

11. Do you think that the rural municipalities are serving the ratepayers to the limit of their capacity to do so? Yes or no?

12. Could not the municipalities take hold of our creamery and cold storage needs in a co-operative way provided that the Provincial Government gave them power to do so? Yes or no? How?

(Continued on Page Seventeen)

Law Officers Report Parliament Cannot Restore Wheat Board

ALBERTA MEMBERS ON THE NEW SITUATION

(By the U.F.A. Members, Ottawa.)

OTTAWA, April 25.—On Wednesday, April 19th, Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King presented the opinion of the law officers of the crown that the re-constitution of the Wheat Board by the Federal Government would be unconstitutional. The Premier did not read the document, but immediately after its presentation, one of our Alberta members left the House, and through the courtesy of the Hansard reporter, read the opinion.

The news quickly circulated among the Progressive members, and a small informal meeting was convened forthwith. They were unable to decide immediately upon a course of action, and the meeting dismissed after arrangements had been made to hear expressions of opinion from the three Western Premiers who were at this time in Ottawa for the purpose of conducting negotiations with the Federal Government upon the matter of the natural resources. At 8:30 the conference with the Western Premiers and other Provincial Ministers took place, and following some three hours' discussion, a resolution was drafted, to be presented to the Agricultural Committee on Friday. Consideration of the law officers' opinion was postponed until Monday, April 24th, when the resolution was presented.

On request of H. H. Stevens (Vancouver Centre), the resolution was allowed to stand over for consideration until Tuesday, when it was fully discussed, and finally passed in the following form:

"That the agricultural committee be authorized to appoint a sub-committee of its members with authority to confer with the law officers of the crown and experts in the grain business, including James Stewart and F. W. Riddell, and such others as it may deem advisable, to ascertain to what extent the Canadian Wheat Board, or other national wheat marketing system, compulsory or otherwise, may be established by this Parliament with or without supplementary Provincial Legislation."

The Western Premiers are in sympathy with the efforts now being made to assure an efficient Board; there is a more hopeful feeling among the Progressives, and an apparent determination to press forward for the Board.

E. J. G.

HOW THE REPORT WAS RECEIVED.

On the ground that the re-constitution of the Canadian Wheat Board with the compulsory powers possessed by the Board which handled the 1919 crop, would interfere with property and civil rights, which are governed by Provincial legislation, the law officers of the crown have expressed the opinion that the Board cannot be restored. Its re-constitution, they submitted, would be a violation of the provisions of the British North America Act. This opinion was tabled in the House of Commons on April 19th

With the announcement of the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown that the re-constitution of the Canadian Wheat Board is beyond the powers conferred on the Federal Parliament under the British North America Act, the fight for the restoration of an efficient Wheat Board with full powers enters upon a new phase, and the matter is still at issue in Parliament. A telegraphic despatch received from the U.F.A. Members of the House of Commons as this paper goes to press, describing the present situation, is published on this page. A summary of developments since the opinion was tabled in the House is also given, and the Law Officers' opinion, as it appears in Hansard of April 19th, is also quoted at length.

by E. L. Newcombe, Deputy Minister of Justice, and concurred in by Sir Lomer Gouin, Minister of Justice, and D. D. McKenzie, Solicitor General. The creation of a voluntary board, they stated, could be undertaken by the Federal Parliament.

Following the announcement, President Wood, in an interview in the daily press, expressed his belief that the Governments of the three Prairie Provinces should protect the rights and interests of the people of the West by the creation of an inter-Provincial Board, if such action should prove necessary. Meanwhile, at Ottawa, the Premiers of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and other members of their cabinets, were conferring with the Progressive members of the House of Commons, and according to Canadian Press despatches, the Premiers of Alberta and Saskatchewan agreed to call special sessions of the Legislatures of these Provinces to pass concurrent legislation, if this should be required. There were present at the conference: Premier Greenfield and Hon. J. E. Brownlee; Premier Dunning and Hon. C. A. Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture of Saskatchewan, and Premier Norris and Attorney-General Johnson of Manitoba.

Millers Opposed to Board

On April 24th a sub-committee of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to present a report showing what form of national wheat marketing proposal may be provided by Parliament. J. F. Johnson, Progressive, of Last Mountain, is chairman, and Hon. S. F. Tolmie and A. R. McMaster are the other members.

The Agricultural Committee has heard witnesses, representing the National Millers' Association, who strongly opposed the re-constitution of the Board on the ground that it would be an interference with private trade. R. A. Thompson, President of the Dominion Millers' Association, and A. O. Hogg, representing the grain section of the Toronto Board of Trade, stated that their interests were opposed to the constitution of a compulsory Board, and Mr. Thompson complained that the Board of 1919 had been unjust, hard and arbitrary in its manner toward the Ontario millers. His company, however, he said, had made a profit under the Board.

Canada and Russia

The Financial Times, in discussing the opinion of the law officers, said, "The

opposition which developed to this proposed Wheat Board was of late very strong at Ottawa, yet it is questionable if it would have sufficed to overcome political considerations, and had it not been for this decision, it may be that the country would have had forced upon it for a period, this most remarkable piece of legislation. As we have declared from the outset, the proposal was not only unbusinesslike, but most autocratic in its character, coming from a professedly democratic organization, and being in Canada and not in Russia. Talking of Russia, there has been denunciation by members of the Progressive party of the autocratic powers exercised by the Czar, and yet we venture to say that not in modern times has the ruler of the Russias ever imposed an edict so autocratic as that which was proposed by the Progressives. This Board was simply to prohibit the grain trade of Canada from exercising its legitimate functions. We cannot recall having heard anything quite so destructive and unstatesmanlike ever proposed in a Canadian Parliament before. Nevertheless, the country is feeling some concern at the growing audacity of strong-arm proposals of this character which are being made at Ottawa, and the apparent complacency with which these are considered by Parliament."

The Law Officers' Opinion

The opinion filed by the law officers, reads as follows:

"The Canadian Wheat Board to which the resolution refers was constituted under authority of an Order-in-Council, No. 1589, of July 31, 1919, which was sanctioned, as therein expressed, "under and in virtue of the War Measures Act," and there are several amending Orders, the principal one being No. 1741 of August 18, 1919. The powers, duties and rights of the Board as set forth in these Orders-in-Council were by the terms of an Act respecting the Canadian Wheat Board, Chapter 9 of 1919, second session, continued in force for eighteen months from the passing of that Act, November 10, 1919, and the Governor-in-Council was thereby empowered to fill vacancies and to make regulations for the extension, conduct or management of the business of the Board. The Orders-in-Council and the rules, regulations and orders made thereunder by the Board were moreover by the provisions of an Act concerning the Canadian Wheat Board, Chapter 5 of 1921, ratified and confirmed as and from their respective dates, and it was also thereby enacted that the Board should continue to exercise its powers so far as might be necessary and convenient for winding up and concluding the business of the Board.

"By the Orders-in-Council the Board was empowered to make such enquiries and investigations as were necessary to ascertain what supplies of wheat were or might be available from time to time; the locality and ownership of these supplies; the transportation and elevator facilities available therefor, and generally the conditions connected with the marketing of wheat.

"The Board was also empowered to buy and sell wheat or wheat products at any

point in Canada; to pay therefor the prices to be scheduled by the Board and approved by the Governor-in-Council; to sell wheat to the millers in Canada at prices and upon conditions fixed by the Board; to store, transport and market wheat; to sell quantities in excess of domestic requirements to purchasers overseas or in other countries at such prices as might be obtainable; to provide for the retention and distribution in Canada of seed wheat required for the season of 1920; to fix maximum prices or margins of profit at which flour and other products made from wheat delivered to millers might be sold, and to fix standards of quality of flour; to purchase flour from millers at prices to be fixed by the Board, and to sell the flour in Canada or in other countries; to take possession of and to sell and deliver wheat stored in any elevator or warehouse, or in railway cars or Canadian boats, and to deal with the same as if acquired by the Board in ordinary course; to control by license or otherwise the buying and selling of wheat and wheat products in Canada, and the export and sales of flour outside of Canada; to allocate Canadian lake tonnage and to distribute cars for rail shipments; to provide that no person, firm or corporation other than the Board should buy wheat, operate any elevator or warehouse where wheat is received, or handle wheat on commission or otherwise, unless licensed by the Board; to require that any wheat sold or purchased in Canada should be delivered to the Board, or to its order, in accordance with such regulations as the Board might make; to require every licensee of the Board accepting delivery of wheat to pay the purchaser by way of an advance or cash payment such sum or sums as might be directed by the Board; to order any person holding wheat stored in any elevator or warehouse or in railway cars or Canadian boats to sell and dispose of the wheat to any purchaser named by the Board on such terms as the Board might direct, and it was provided that any such order of the Board should pass to the purchaser the property in the wheat therein described.

Power to Impose Penalties

"The board was also empowered to prohibit the export out of Canada, or the importation into Canada, of any wheat or wheat products otherwise than in accordance with the orders or regulations of the Board, and to prescribe penalties for the contravention of the orders or regulations of the Board.

"There were some other powers conferred by these orders, of a subordinate or incidental character, which need not be more fully set out because the foregoing statement indicates sufficiently for present purposes the objects of the Board and the scope and character of its powers.

"It will be perceived that these powers naturally group themselves under two heads; there are enabling or facultative provisions, and there are compulsory provisions. As to those of the former class, I apprehend that Parliament has undoubted authority to constitute a board for the purpose of buying and selling, and to enable it to contract and to exercise such powers as are necessary or incidental to a voluntary undertaking.

"The Board is, however, invested with compulsory powers, and for the purpose of considering the authority of Parliament to constitute a commission clothed with these powers, it is well to mention

some of them separately. They include (a) the fixing of maximum prices or margins of profit at which flour may be sold by the millers; (b) the compulsory taking of wheat in store or in transit subject to compensation fixed by the Board, including power by order of the Board to transfer the property in any wheat so stored or in transit to such purchaser, and upon such terms, as the Board may nominate and prescribe; (c) prohibition of buying and selling wheat in Canada upon commission or otherwise, and the operating of elevators or warehouses for wheat, except by license of the Board; (d) authority to require delivery to the Board of all wheat sold or purchased in Canada; (e) regulation by the Board of the dealings of its licensees.

Federal and Provincial Authority

"These coercive powers would be exercisable by the reconstructed Board in the Provinces, and they directly affect property and the exercise of civil rights in the Provinces; they enable the Board generally, not only to have a monopoly of the trade in wheat, but also to regulate the price of flour manufactured in a Province, even from wheat grown in that Province; they may be exercised to forbid trading in the Provinces except by Dominion license. They are therefore powers of the character described by the British North America Act, 1867, as relating to 'matters coming within property and civil rights in the Province,' or 'matters of a merely local or private nature in the Province.' Consequently, upon well established principles of interpretation, the reconstruction of the Board with these powers is competent to the Parliament of Canada only if the necessary enacting authority be found in the enumerated Dominion powers of legislation, in which case the *prima facie* Provincial powers are overborne.

"Comprehensive authority is conferred upon the Parliament of Canada to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Canada in relation to all matters not coming within the classes of subjects assigned exclusively to the provinces, and moreover there are enumerated subjects as to which the authority of Parliament is exclusive; one of these is the class of subjects described as 'militia, military and naval service and defence,' including the necessary or incidental powers exercisable in time of war for the defence of the country. No question is suggested as to the authority of Parliament, or of the Governor-in-Council under the War Measures Act and the confirming Acts, to give effect to the Orders-in-Council under which the former Wheat Board was established and exercised the powers expressed to be conferred upon it. The temporary nature of these powers is evidenced, not only by the Orders-in-Council themselves, but also by chapter 5 of 1921, whereby the Orders-in-Council were continued in force merely for the necessary and convenient purpose of winding up and concluding the unsettled business of the Board, and thus it is plain that the provisions affecting the former board were sanctioned only as war measures.

An Immaterial Question

"The present inquiry is concerned with the question as to whether Parliament may in the existing circumstances reconstruct the board with its former powers, and it does not appear whether it be proposed to reconstruct upon a permanent or a temporary footing; that consideration, however, becomes immaterial if, as I think, the board cannot now be reconstituted as a war measure.

Power to Regulate Trade Limited

"It might have been suggested that the exclusive power of Parliament with regard to 'the regulation of trade and commerce' would extend to regulation of the wheat trade in the manner provided by the Orders-in-Council, but this power, comprehensive enough in its mere statement, has been limited by judicial interpretation; and, compatibly with the decisions, it does not comprise the powers which would be necessary for the reconstruction of the Wheat Board.

"The insurance trade was regulated by means of a system of licenses under the provisions of a series of statutes enacted by the Parliament of Canada from the time of the Union until 1910, but when the Consolidated Act of that year came to be reviewed by the courts it was held, both by the Supreme Court of Canada and by the judicial committee of the Privy Council, that the legislation was *ultra vires*, and their lordships of the judicial committee in pronouncing the judgment held that, as a result of the decisions, 'it must now be taken that the authority to legislate for the regulation of trade and commerce does not extend to the regulation by a licensing system of a particular trade in which Canadians would otherwise be free to engage in the provinces.' Attorney-General for Canada vs. Attorney-General for Alberta, 1916 Appeal Cases, at page 596.

"Similarly in the recent case with regard to the Board of Commerce Act and the Combines and Fair Prices Act, although the judges of the Supreme Court of Canada were equally divided in opinion, it was held by the judicial committee that the legislation, which was designed to prohibit the hoarding of the necessities of life and to require the sale of them at fair prices, could not be upheld under the power to regulate trade and commerce.

"It may be observed that the wheat trade is in some of its aspects not merely local within the province of production. The greater part of the crop in the wheat growing provinces is exported, not only from the province of growth, but from the Dominion, and the trade thus assumes an interprovincial or foreign character; it is also a trade of great dimensions and importance affecting the interests of the whole Dominion; but in like manner the insurance trade in itself was not the less interprovincial or extra local; and moreover the fair distribution of the necessities of life at reasonable prices, which seems to have been the dominant motive of the Board of Commerce and Fair Prices legislation, was a project of general importance and of common interest, potentially affecting the whole body politic.

Dominion Powers to Meet Abnormal Situation

"In the Prohibition Case, 1896, Appeal Cases, at page 361, their lordships of the Judicial Committee expressed their conviction that 'some matters, in their origin local and Provincial, might attain such dimensions as to affect the body politic of the Dominion, and to justify the Canadian Parliament in passing laws for their regulation or abolition in the interests of the Dominion;' and apparently their lordships upheld the Canada Temperance Act, which was then under consideration, upon the ground that the dimensions of the liquor trade were such as to withdraw the particular subject matter of that act from Provincial powers. We are told, however, that the

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This Year's Twine Prices Are Lower Than At Any Time In Five Years



THE "BIG BALL" Is a Time Saver

WHEN harvest time comes the days are not long enough. There is so much to be done and the minutes fly so fast. Time saved is money earned.

**McCORMICK DEERING
INTERNATIONAL**

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The U. F. W. A. and Juniors

Miss J. B. Kidd, Provincial Secretary of the U.F.W.A., writes in this issue on the potentialities of the organized farm women. A suggestive program issued by the Women's Section of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association is quoted. Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, Convenor of Young People's Work, suggests to the Locals a program of study of the Natural Resources of Alberta.

A LETTER TO THE LOCALS

To all Locals of the U.F.W.A.:

Dear Friends:—

Very often I try to imagine a picture of your little Local at work. I wonder what subjects you are discussing, what plans you are making for your community, what social affairs you are preparing for, how you have arranged your program. But most of all I wonder if you have really seen the vision of what this great body of farm women, banded together with a common purpose, can accomplish if they realize their power and steadfastly march forward to the goal.

Too often our attention is centered in our own little affairs, our own little community, and our own little Local. We forget to focus our vision upon the great body of organized women as a whole and we fail to realize that we are a part of a great united force. If we feel this sense of unity with other parts of the Association, instead of belittling our own importance, we shall have awakened consciousness of the necessity for our own existence. We shall realize that unless every part of the organization functions, the efficiency of the whole is impaired. When something goes wrong with the farm machinery we do not scrap the whole machine, but fix the one part that caused trouble. Let us each realize that we must keep our part of the machine lubricated and running smoothly. Only in this way can we hope to get done the work our machine was designed for.

Wishing your Local a profitable summer's work, Yours fraternally,

J. B. Kidd,
Secretary U.F.W.A.

:o:

A SUGGESTIVE PROGRAM

The Women's Section of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association has issued a suggestive program for the summer. Possibly U.F.W.A. Locals may find some useful suggestions for their summer plan of work.

In introducing the program the Secretary of the W.S.S.G.A. gives the following working hints:

"The success of a meeting depends largely upon the preparation made for it, and for this reason many of our clubs find it desirable to prepare programs for three or six months in advance, not only that those who take part will have an opportunity to become informed on the various subjects, but that everyone may know just what will be discussed on any particular day. This suggestive program has been prepared merely as an aid to the clubs, and as an indication of the wide variety of topics which may be taken up, but should of course be adapted to local needs. The Annual Conventions prove that rural women are not only taking their citizenship very seriously, but

are most anxious to measure up to their opportunities, and programs should not be made up entirely of household topics, although these have their place also.

"As the Association offers unusual advantages for self-development it is most important that every member be induced to take an active part in the program.

"As a suggestion for increasing interest and membership in the Association, it might be advisable when the program is arranged to have it typed if possible, and a copy sent by mail to every rural woman in the neighborhood, with an invitation to attend the meetings."

May

"First Meeting.—The help problem on the farm. Labor-saving devices. Have each member come prepared to give one suggestion along this line.

"Second Meeting.—Co-operation between Home and School. Should teachers be obliged to get their first experience in country schools? Invite one or more teachers to your meeting to ascertain their views on these subjects.

June

"First Meeting.—Municipal government and women's responsibility in regard to it. Would women make acceptable municipal secretaries? Discuss proposed provincial constituency meetings.

"Second Meeting.—Demonstration of the Fireless Cooker. Round table discussion on salads and cold desserts.

July

"First Meeting.—Is a 'Community of Interest' law practicable and what does it involve? Are women ready to surrender special privilege for equal rights?

"Second Meeting.—Have women a definite contribution to bring to the solution of political problems? Compare the relative characteristics of men and women and their different viewpoints.

August

"First Meeting.—How housework can be lightened through harvest and threshing. Original contributions from different members.

"Second Meeting.—Keeping Boys and Girls on the Farm. Do we impress them with the advantages as well as the disadvantages of farm life?

September

"First Meeting.—Can we arrange with neighboring Locals to hold a Grain Growers' re-union on Thanksgiving Day? Advantage of this as an annual event.

"Second Meeting.—The advisability of forming a Reading Circle. Making use of the Open Shelf Library."

:o:

LOCAL REPORTS

The Edmonton Journal and Western Farmer are supplied by Central Office each week with a series of reports from U.F.W.A. and Junior Locals. These reports are of value in giving suggestions to other Locals, and also they arouse an interest in the U.F.W.A. in unorganized territory.

It would be of great assistance in keeping up this publicity work if each Local would report regularly to Central. Each Local has some helpful hints to give other Locals. Why not pass them along? Remember Central Office is always glad to receive any news about Local activities.

The Junior Branch

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF CITIZENSHIP

When the question is asked "Have you a Junior Club in your district?"—the answer very often is "No, but the young people meet with us;" then we follow up with the question, "Do your young people take part in the discussions of your Local?"—nearly always the answer is, "No, but they listen and seem interested."

Now boys and girls—young men and women, we all "learn to do by doing," and unless you intend taking an active part in the programs of the senior Local, by all means organize a Junior Local and immediately you have organized and elected your supervisor or supervisors, decide what you will study for the balance of the year.

A Study Program

It would give me great pleasure to hear what work you are doing and also to have you write me your opinion of how the following program could be used in your Locals—a study of the Natural Resources of our Province under the heads:

1. Agricultural Lands. 2. Minerals—(a) Coal. (b) Oil and Gas. (c) Tar Lands. (d) Other Minerals. 3. Timber. 4. Fisheries. 5. Furs. 6. Water Power. 7. Irrigation. 8. National Parks.

While the last two hardly come under natural resources, as we generally term them, yet they are so closely allied that the study might well be taken here.

Material for the above topics may be had by writing to the Extension Department of the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

By the time another year has passed we are hoping that our Province will own and control its natural resources, so let us take time by the forelock and learn what those resources are, where located, and their estimated values, so that we can take a more intelligent interest in their use and conservation.

But remember always we must have a well-balanced program. We must let each evening have its proper share of social as well as educational work. For instance, the base ball season will soon be on. In most districts the young people meet to play ball at least twice a month. After your game is over, you could profitably spend an hour in such study as above suggested, and you would be laying a foundation for better citizenship.

MRS. R. CLARKE FRASER,
Convenor of Young People's Work.

—o—

THE SEED OF MODERN WARS

"Peace? Why, my fellow citizens, is there any man here or any woman—let me say, is there any child—who doesn't know that the seed of war in the modern world is industrial and commercial rivalry? The war was a commercial and industrial war. It was not a political war. The real reason why the war we have just finished took place was that Germany was afraid her commercial rivals were going to get the better of her, and the reason why some nations went into the war against Germany was that they thought that Germany would get the commercial advantage of them. The seed of the jealousy, the seed of the deep-seated hatred, was hot, successful commercial and industrial rivalry."—Woodrow Wilson, in a speech at St. Louis, Mo.

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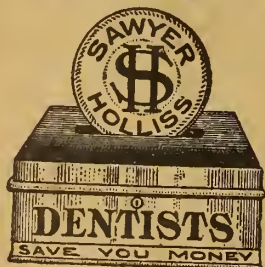
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A Chore Time Soliloquy

By A. M. TURNER

Well, it doesn't seem long since I hitched up the horses this morning, and here I am putting them in the barn again. Must water Pat now, and fetch in the cows.

Ever since the meeting last night, I can't keep from thinking about Lem Fergus. He's surely been a thorn in the flesh to our Local ever since it was formed. And the mischief of it is that he thinks he's the head and front of the whole concern, since he was the one to start the ball rolling to get organized. Thinks he's the whole Local, by Jove. I believe he thinks he invented the U.F.A., too. Bolton said he wondered if ever before any human being had contained such a high percentage of conceit to the pound.

But his conceit wouldn't be so hard to put up with, if he weren't so bitter, so suspicious of every last man that's doing any active, constructive work in the organization. He's sure that everyone but Fergus is "out for himself." I believe he even suspects our honest old secretary, that I've known to drive a mile to save the Local a dime.

Now, just because Davidson had a different idea of what ought to be done, Fergus began with his nasty little hints of ulterior motives, and his sneers at the notion that anyone opposing him could be honestly anxious to do the right thing. His whole philosophy is built on hatred, and all his opinions are painted over thick with bitterness.

Well, I wouldn't give a continental what his opinions were, if he wasn't so blamed insistent that we should hear all about them for an hour or so every meeting. He's driving folks away from the Local—I just have to force myself to go, to try and not let him spoil the thing altogether, but my patience was pretty nearly worn out last night.

Bolton said to me he wished a kind Providence would remove Fergus' power of speech, but I wish something would take him off to the other side of the globe, and let the Fiji Islanders get the benefit of his eloquence for the rest of his life.

But I guess it's no use wishing for any such happy miracle. Might as well wish he'd become charitable and kindly and willing to listen to other folks' opinions.

He's continually bringing up some grievance that "this Local should make a protest about." They'll think we do nothing but protest. Of course, the deuce of it is, mostly the protests are pretty much in order—that is, the grievances are real, and I suppose we have to give Fergus

credit that he's enterprising in bringing them to our notice.

By Jove, there's a sunset. Look how sharp and clear the mountains stand out against the gold of the sky! And the deep blue of the shadows beneath! Isn't that a glorious picture, Pat, old boy, eh? The country is the place for us all right. Who'd look at brick walls and clouds of smoke when they could have clean stretches of prairie, and the trees standing along the river's edge down there, and the mountains away off in the West, and the sunset coloring the great wide sky. And there's the lamp Ella's lit in the kitchen, making a little yellow square in the dark wall of the house. It's pretty good to be alive, all right.

Yes, this is a pretty good life; if only a fellow could make enough to live in comfort, and have no debts hanging over him and no interest payments—hang it all! That brings me back to the U.F.A., and my part in the U.F.A. is in our Local, and when I think of the Local I have to think of our arch-handicap, Lem Fergus.

Now, I wonder what we can do besides just having patience and bearing with him. I guess probably some of us fellows will have to learn to talk up more in the meetings, and not let him have so much opportunity. That's the idea! I hate speaking myself, but I'm hanged if I won't try more, and be on the watch, and try to forestall him. I suppose instead of passing resolutions of protest we might pass resolutions suggesting remedies for whatever difficulties we have before us. Yes, sir! It's up to me and Bolton and the rest of us to watch for the troubles, and have suggestions ready, and get them in before Lem gets started with his tirades and his protests. I guess that's the best scheme yet, for it's useless to hope he'll improve, and as for his getting sore and staying away, that's hopeless too. He gets sore and stays with it, and lets us feel the brunt of his bad humor.

I'll just keep my eyes open and my wits sharpened and just beat old Lem to it. Maybe he'll prove a blessing in disguise after all, if he makes some of us a little more alive.

Well, I think I'm through once more. Everything's had a drink and is busy eating; gates and doors all shut. I'm just cold enough to be glad to get beside the fire, too, and I'm ready for supper. What's that I smell? Ella's been baking—I believe it's hot gingerbread.

An Eastern Paper on the Alberta Members

In discussing the personnel of the new House of Commons, the Toronto Star said in a recent issue: "It is the Province of Alberta that has sent the most notable reinforcements to the House. Out of its twelve members, at least six, Messrs. Shaw, Irvine, Spencer, Garland, Gardiner and Kennedy, have already shown excellent capacity for public life, and as they work together will be increasingly influential in the House."

"Many criticisms have been hurled at the group government theory which H. W. Wood has made so popular in Alberta,

but if its extension to the other Provinces would endow half their ridings with as promising members as half the Alberta constituencies have sent down, then its spread should be immediately encouraged."

Referring to Captain Shaw, the Independent member from West Calgary, the Star says: "He starts with the advantage of a fine war record and a good legal training, but he is a man of real character, and only experience is needed to make him one of the foremost members in the House. Mr. Irvine is half a Laborite, but in him and Mr. Woodsworth Labor is represented by more effective spokesmen than it ever before possessed at Ottawa."

LAW OFFICERS REPORT PARLIAMENT CANNOT RESTORE WHEAT BOARD

(Continued from Page 10)

principle enunciated by the Prohibition case is to be applied with great caution, and with reluctance, and that its recognition as relevant can be justified only after scrutiny sufficient to render it clear that the circumstances are abnormal. A constitutional power which is beset by these conditions, and which moreover depends upon the dimensions of its subject matter, is not a very safe one to rely upon; the principle has in fact been made effective only with relation to the Canada Temperance Act, notwithstanding that it was afterwards advocated in several cases where the subject of the enactment in question was held to remain Provincial, although not lacking in growth, magnitude or general importance. Therefore I do not think that the dimensions doctrine can be successfully invoked to re-constitute the compulsory powers which were possessed by the Wheat Board.

"It is clear that so long as a subject matter of legislation finds place within the enumerations of Provincial powers, it does not belong to the Dominion under its general authority to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Canada. It is certain that the essential compulsory powers of the Wheat Board are prima facie included in the Provincial enumeration of property and civil rights or local matters in the provinces. In my opinion these powers do not lie within the field which may be occupied by the execution of the Dominion power to regulate trade and commerce, as that power has been expounded in successive decisions by the ultimate tribunal of appeal; and I think it may be affirmed, without uncertainty, that the necessary reconstructive powers are not comprehended in any other of the Dominion enumerations.

Freedom of Contract

"While I do not suggest a doubt that conditions of export from the Dominion and foreign trade relations may be regulated by Parliament, I am impressed with the view that these powers cannot be made a cover for legislation which denies the freedom of contract, capacity to buy and sell and the maintenance and exercise of proprietary rights which exist under the Provincial laws. The powers of criminal legislation which belong exclusively to the Dominion are in their application to this case of an ancillary character and cannot as such be invoked to afford a sanction for measures in themselves ultra vires. Consequently, it is my opinion that the reconstruction of the Wheat Board in the present circumstances with the powers conferred thereon by the orders-in-council is a project constitutionally incompetent to the Parliament of Canada."

—:0:—

DECLARE SECTION OF GRAIN ACT ULTRA VIRES

Section 215 of the Canada Grain Act has been declared by the Manitoba Court of Appeal to be ultra vires of the Federal Parliament. This section provides that an annual license must be obtained by any person selling grain on commission, and the appeal arose from a conviction last year of the Manitoba Grain Company, who were fined \$500 for selling grain without a license.

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Neuritis is an inflammation of a nerve. It is usually confined to the nerve covering, hence should be called Perineuritis. It may affect the connective tissue sheath of the nerve. It may extend from the periphery to the spinal cord or brain. It presents all degrees of severity from very mild (myalgic pains) to the severe, when degeneration of nerve takes place.

Multiple neuritis is characterized by a simultaneous inflammation of several nerve trunks, usually on both sides of the body. This form is due to a chronic poisoning from alcohol, arsenic, mercury, lead or malaria. It sometimes follows infectious diseases such as diphtheria, typhoid fever, and commonly follows flu.

Neuritis is always due to pressure either from without or within the nerve sheath. When from within it is due to infection or poison, and when from without it is due to mechanical pressure from tumors, dislocations and the like, or chemical activities.

TREATMENT. The successful management of neuritis lies, first, in a perfect diagnosis; second, in removal of the cause; third, in application of physical measures to relieve the condition.

Ordinarily the practitioner of to-day treats all cases of neuritis with rest to the affected parts, and medication to cover up the symptoms. If the object in view is to make a dope fiend, I know of no shorter route than that of prescribing opium to one affected with neuritis. If you desire to make a chronic case out of an acute one, put the patient in bed and prescribe acetanilid. If you don't know anything else to do give him aspirin. There are cases of neuritis of such severity as to require a sedative such as phenacetine, but the great majority can be relieved without sedative drugs. Rest may in a few cases be indicated for a day or two, but be cautious lest rest cause your acute case to become chronic.

The treatment PAR EXCELLENCE is heat by electricity, applied twice daily for thirty minutes. This treatment is applicable at any stage of the disease. If the cause is discovered early and removed, electricity will cure every case before it has had time to become chronic.

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How U.F.A. Locals May Assist in Overcoming the Grasshopper Menace

By E. H. Strickland, Professor of Entomology, University of Alberta

Thirty districts, covering the Province from the southern boundary north to Camrose, and including approximately 300 municipal districts and unorganized units, have been formed by the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of waging an aggressive war against the grasshopper pest. An agent of the Department has been placed in each of the districts, and will have complete charge of the administration of the Pest Act.

If every Local of the U. F. A. organize to control the grasshoppers in the district in which its members reside, the task of dealing with this pest will be simplified in a very marked degree during the present season.

During the past three years many tons of bait have been used by farmers and others in Alberta for the control of grasshoppers, and they saved crops to the value of several millions of dollars. On the other hand many people whose farms were infested failed to realize the seriousness of the situation and, by neglecting to poison the grasshoppers that hatched out around their fields, not only lost a large percentage of their own crops, but were responsible for the winged grasshoppers which, later in the season, re-infested farms on which the pest had been held down to small numbers. These caused considerable losses to farmers who had taken the necessary precautions to kill the grasshoppers that bred around their fields.

To Guard Against Re-infestation

The "Pest Act", which requires all landowners to poison the young grasshoppers that hatch out on their land, has been recently added to the statutes of Alberta, in order to safeguard everyone from such re-infestation in future. In addition to this, the Government is paying for half of the cost of ingredients for bait. In the municipal districts the Government will instal mixing machines and supply the bait free of charge to all farmers, though half of the cost of the ingredients and the expense of mixing the bait will be charged against the taxes of the district.

By this means every farmer should be able to obtain all of the bait that he requires for controlling the young grasshoppers that hatch in the sod around his fields before they spread into his own and his neighbors' grain. It is clearly the duty of everyone whose land is infested to see that all of the breeding grounds on his farm are poisoned early in the season. Locals will be well advised to see that all breeding grounds, whether they are on occupied or on unoccupied land, are treated early in the season. This will prevent re-infestations and the value of the crops saved will be many times the cost of the bait employed. Delay is dangerous. Within two weeks of the time they hatch out, the grasshoppers scatter from the breeding-grounds and are far more difficult to poison.

Economy Essential

While every effort will be made to supply every farmer with bait when it

is most needed, this can be done only if everyone is as economical as possible in using the bait. Twenty-five pounds is ample for poisoning an acre of infested land, or half a mile of sod one rod in width. Any heavier application than this is wasted, and the extra bait may be needed in the worst way on some neighboring farm. The bait should also be scattered only where the grasshoppers are most numerous, and no one should draw more of it from the mixing station than he can use in the next forty-eight hours.

The Most Effective Co-operation

Though everyone is anxious, naturally, to give the maximum protection to his own crops, it must be borne in mind that the grasshoppers constitute a menace to the whole district, and that the bait must be used where it will kill the largest number of the pests, regardless of who owns the infested land. Such co-operation will result in the destruction of crops being held to a minimum, and there will be a marked reduction of the outbreak in 1923 in place of the increase that has taken place during the past three years.

A supply of the Department of Agriculture bulletins on grasshopper control has been sent to the secretaries of all municipal districts in the infested area, as well as to the schools of agriculture. It is hoped that all farmers will obtain a copy of this, and carefully follow the instructions that it contains regarding the use of poisoned baits. If this is done, the money that is expended this year in grasshopper control will save the farmers of Alberta many millions of dollars.

In unorganized territory, unless the farmers take steps to co-operate with the Department of Agriculture, it will be very difficult for the Government to help them. Everyone should take a personal interest in this matter, and write to the Department if unable to obtain the necessary information locally.

Hatch About Middle of May

The roadside grasshopper does not hatch until about the middle of May. The eggs can be readily found now and farmers are urged to examine their fence rows and pastures for these eggs. When a breeding ground has been found it should be watched carefully from about the middle of May. When this is found to be swarming with minute grasshoppers, no larger than mosquitoes, the farmer who is wise will make a tour of all his fence rows, his pastures, old straw piles and the margins of slough water in or near his farm. He must make this egg tour on foot, for it is only by disturbing the grasshoppers as he walks through the grass that he will be able to estimate their numbers. Where they are numerous they will spring from the ground around his feet like water splashing from a puddle. In this case there must be no delay; estimate the number of acres that are infested—half a mile of sod a rod wide is an acre—and obtain sufficient bait to scatter 25 lbs. of it on every badly infested acre. A week's delay may mean that the grasshoppers will

have scattered over twice as many acres. They would then require twice as much bait and double the amount of labor in applying it.

THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S PAGE

(Continued from Page 8)

13. If so, what pressure should the U. F. A. Locals bring to bear on them and what action is your Local prepared to take to support such a movement?

14. What plan of Provincial marketing would you suggest to take care of our surplus dairy products, butter, eggs, etc.?

15. Do you think that a well organized co-operative export organization capable of finding markets for our surplus products would prevent the recurrence of slumping prices which is so prevalent in Western Canada and is so discouraging to farming business?

16. Do you think that a Provincial Government bank for short term loans and a Federal Government long term credit plan, at a low rate of interest, is vital to the industrial existence of the farmer and also necessary to the development of a first class selling system of farm products? Yes or no? If so, why?

17. To what extent are you prepared to support the proposal of a Provincial bank?

18. What action do you propose to bring pressure on the Federal Government to get them to establish the long term credit plan?

19. What do you think is going to happen to the Alberta farmer if he is not able to solve the foregoing industrial and financial problems?

20. Can we meet our national, Provincial, municipal and private liabilities, support our essential public institutions, maintain sound business conditions in our towns and cities unless farming can first be made a profitable industry for the farmer and wealth brought in to the Province from the sale of our products abroad? Yes or no? Why?

LICENSING OF PRODUCE DEALERS

Locals will be glad to note that the Legislature of the Province passed an Act for the bonding and licensing of produce dealers.

This matter was brought to the attention of the Government by the Central Executive in view of the losses occurring to farmers shipping their produce to firms who failed to make satisfactory settlement.

THE MONTREAL WITNESS.

The Montreal Weekly Witness, a newspaper which for many years has held the enviable reputation of being a fearless opponent of special privilege, is at present in serious financial difficulties, and unless it receive very strong support in the near future, will be compelled to suspend publication. To meet a mortgage on the building occupied by the newspaper, \$125,000,000 is needed, and while many friends of The Witness have contributed to its assistance, large sums are still required. It has been suggested that members of the Locals might be interested in the Weekly Witness, which has always stood for temperance, has been consistently independent in journalism, has fought protection from the beginning, and is progressive in its policy. Subscriptions should be addressed to "The Montreal Witness, Montreal, Que."

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\$10.00 Set

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To BUY or SELL FARMS, See
WESTGATE, EDMONTON.

THE NEW CANADIAN PARLIAMENT IN SESSION

(Continued from Page 4)

was made by several Progressives to induce the Minister to adopt a policy of setting aside either one whole farm, or parts of several farms, to be worked on a parity with the conditions under which the farmers themselves are compelled to work, in order to ascertain definitely whether or not the repeated assertion of the Progressives is true, that the industry as a whole was not only not paying, but that the majority of the farmers were actually going in debt whilst working long hours themselves and using the free labor of their wives and children.

More than once the title "calamity howler" has been tacked on some honest Progressive who was truthfully stating the wretched condition of the people on the farms. This proposal, however, did not appear practical to Mr. Motherwell, who said incidentally that in order to make farming pay, it was necessary to have "peasant proprietorship." A member from Alberta picked him up on this and the Minister replied that he did not mean the peasant system as in older Europe, but used the term in the sense that a farm should be operated by the owner without the use of hired labor, thus introducing the small farm idea as opposed to the occasional large farms found in the West. So, now we know.

Force or Arbitration

Mr. Woodsworth's resolution, asking that the R.C.M.P. be confined to territories not included in any Province of Canada, met considerable opposition from the opposition benches. Indeed, almost all the active opposition appeared to come from those who believed in maintaining a mobile, semi-military force for the purpose of settling or unsettling industrial disputes by show of force, instead of by the modern method of arbitration.

It was discouraging to those who hoped to find a House sufficiently modern as to be capable of recognising the advisability of settlement of labor troubles by peaceful means, to find still arrayed here, these uncompromising persons who recognize no rights but those of the employer. It was unfortunate that Mr. Woodsworth should have used his great opportunity on this occasion to introduce the irritating Winnipeg strike, and to some extent abandon the principle of his resolution, which was sound enough, in order to attack the methods of the police. One cannot but feel that under more gentle, tactful guidance, the resolution would have had a happier ending. It was defeated. But, one found lined up in support of the principle the great majority of the Progressives and a large number of the Liberals, the Conservatives, of course, solidly opposed.

On the day before adjournment, the House was treated to a session of potatoes and fish, a Progressive asking for terminal facilities for potato storage at St. John, and a B.C. member hot on the track of the destroyers of the salmon industry in the Fraser River. The latter discussion was not only instructive, but entertaining, and those who took part in it proved that they had their subject well in hand. There is little doubt that the great salmon industry on the coast is in serious danger, and the closest possible scrutiny should be made on this matter by the Government.

National Roads Show Improvement

Documents relating to the Genoa Conference were tabled by the Prime Minister on the 11th and will be well worth the study of those who possess Hansard for that date. In the same issue will be found the annual statement of the Minister of Railways upon which the press has commented very favorably. In general, the railway outlook is hopeful and the National roads show improvements. There is also satisfaction among the Progressives that the policy of the Government is to give public ownership a fair trial. The plan of referring the whole question of freight rates to a Committee, is, however, looked upon by many with some distrust. It is felt that much depends upon the members of that Committee.

A great deal has been accomplished so far this session, but the big business of the session (the Budget, the Wheat Board, and Freight Rates), is still ahead.

Answers to Questions

Answers to some of the many questions asked are of considerable informative value. In reply to one it is found that on account of the Grand Trunk Railway during the calendar year 1921, a total of 1,823,000 tons of coal were imported at a cost of \$11,250,000. Another showed that cash subsidies amounting to \$31,870,016.56 had been paid by the Government up to the time that the Mackenzie-Mann interests surrendered control of the railway.

Over a million pounds of butter were imported into Canada from New Zealand during 1921.

Mails and Government Railways

In answer to a question, "Does the Government intend to make arrangements to have all mails carried by the National Railways wherever possible?" the following was given, and may indicate that even the present Government is not willing to push the good of the C.N. system where it touches the C.P.R.:—

"Instructions issued under date. . . . were to the effect that. . . . the C.N. Railways and the C.P.R. were to be fairly treated in connection with the mail service—neither given an unfair advantage."

It will be a relief to many to know that the Government is not proposing to meet the maturing tax free bonds, which amount to \$182,834,500, by another issue tax free, but by issuing a loan. E.J.G.

MINISTERS CONFER ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Conferences between the Federal Cabinet and the Premiers and other Ministers in the Governments of the Prairie Provinces on the subject of the natural resources commenced at Ottawa on April 20th. It was announced that an agreement had been reached with Manitoba recognizing that that Province should be placed on an equality with the other Provinces. The agreement provides also that any items on which a settlement cannot be reached by the two Governments shall be referred to an arbitration board, whose findings shall be ratified by the Dominion Parliament and also by the Manitoba Legislature. The negotiations between Federal Ministers and the Alberta and Saskatchewan Ministers are continuing.

"The desire to exercise power over others for the sake of power is an attribute of little minds," H. P. Vowles, in "Under New Management."

SEED

Millet, Early Fortune and Siberian. This year brought from Manitoba. Every farmer should sow a few acres of this in rich ground. It has proven in Manitoba to yield the largest quantity of cattle feed of any of the fodder crops other than Sunflower. Price, special \$5.00 per 100 lbs. Sunflower Seed, \$14.00 per 100 lbs.

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We extend a cordial invitation to all consumers of Paint to visit our Factory. This is the only Paint Factory in the Province of Alberta, and it is using Alberta Products.

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WANT BETTER BREAD?
USE WHITE STAR YEAST CAKES

U.S. to Raise Tariff On Products of Farm

The United States Tariff Bill recently presented in the Senate includes rates on agricultural and other products as follows:—

Wheat, 30c. a bushel.
Flour, 78c. per 100 lbs.
Oats, 15c. a bushel.
Oatmeal, 90c. per 100 lbs.
Cattle, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. a pound to 2c. a pound.
Fresh beef, $3\frac{1}{2}$ c. a pound.
Swine, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. a pound.
Fresh pork $\frac{3}{4}$ c. a pound.
Butter, 8c. a pound.
Horses, \$30 per head to 20 per cent.
Potatoes, 58c. per 100 lbs.
Hides, green, 2c. a pound; dried, 4c. a pound.
Wools, 35c. a pound.
Lumber, logs, \$1 per 1,000 feet; sawed boards, 15 per cent.

The duty on wheat was 25c. a bushel in both the Fordney and Payne-Aldrich tariffs. The new bill also shows an increase in the duty on flour from 50c. per 100 pounds under the Fordney tariff.

Returns Deal With Alberta Expenditures

Returns asked for during the latter part of the recent session of the Legislature are now being completed and compiled for printing in the journals of the Assembly. Answers to questions of members returned during the last week of the session included the following:

In response to R. C. Marshall, Calgary—Hail insurance notes guaranteed in 1921 totalled \$1,700,000. Of this \$150,000 in notes remained unused, and \$500,000 was paid off leaving liability of \$1,000,000.

In response to Mr. Milnes, Claresholm,—Total salaries paid last year \$3,356,610.56; the total bonus paid was \$193,565.25, with \$35,605.03 in the Phone Dept., including wages and overtime.

In response to Hon. C. R. Mitchell—A total of \$31,203.56 has been paid out on the special audit being conducted for the Government. The principals of the auditing firms doing the work were paid \$35 a day, the seniors \$21 a day and others \$14 a day.

Agricultural Agents

In response to Hon. Mr. Mitchell.—Agricultural Agents in 1920 totalled 4 and in 1921 there were five. Total salaries paid in 1920 to these was \$5,321.17 with expenses totalling \$2,135.11, and salaries in 1921 totalled \$8,888.41, with \$2,874.32 expenses.

In response to Mr. Milnes.—Eighty-six per cent of the student body of the University are Alberta residents, and 162 are Alberta born. There are 32 professors, including deans, employed, 14 assistant professors, 11 associate professors, 26 lecturers, 5 instructors, 4 with part time, 25 demonstrators part time; there are 13 employees in the extension department.

In response to Mr. McKeen, Lac. Ste. Anne.—The gasoline boat "Moberly," purchased in July 1921, for services on the Clearwater river from end of A. & G.W., to McMurray, cost the Government \$4,107.45; the operation of the boat cost \$1,057.65 and the total revenue received was \$9.

The Budget of the National Railways

The Minister of Railways, W. C. Kennedy, in presenting his first railway budget to the House of Commons recently, announced that the Canadian National and Grand Trunk Railways would be brought under the management of one board of directors. Other announcements made by Mr. Kennedy were:—

That the new board will be asked to advise on division of the huge mileage of the national system into units, each with its own headquarters and under the direction of a general manager, who will be subject to the general lines of policy laid down by the board of general headquarters.

Crow's Nest Pass Agreement

That the House is to be asked, in view of the fact that suspension of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement terminates on July 6, to appoint a special committee to study freight rates, with power to summon the executives of the various railways.

That the work of co-ordination will be supplemented by an investigation of the financial affairs and business methods generally of the railways passing under the control of the new board.

The total amount to be voted for railways in the current fiscal year, including both Grand Trunk and Canadian National, said Mr. Kennedy, was \$97,220,000, compared with \$179,065,760 in the previous year.

Total Deficit \$56,673,935

In 1921 the costs of operation of the Canadian National had been less by twenty million dollars than in 1920; but fixed charges had been higher, bringing the deficit to \$56,673,935, as against \$67,505,059 in 1920.

The financial standing of the Grand Trunk, which has been under Government control since last May, may be summarized as follows:—Fixed charges, 1921, \$19,245,583; 1920, \$14,025,637. Less net income, 1921, \$3,573,284; 1920, \$7,498,394. Net loss, 1921, \$15,672,299; 1920, \$6,527,243.

On the two lines the deficit in 1921 was \$72,346,234; in 1920 it was \$74,032,302.

Gross earnings of national lines during 1921 amounted to \$126,691,455.72, an increase of \$1,049,703.41 over the previous year, notwithstanding decreased traffic to the extent of 4,000,000 tons of freight and 1,715,625 passengers.

The National system was said to be the only transcontinental system in America of which the earnings in 1921 from the increased freight and passenger rates established in September, 1920, were not entirely offset by the loss in tonnage and passengers.

Smaller Loss on Operation

Operating expenses amounted to \$142,784,357, being a decrease of \$19,700,365, leaving loss on operation of the system of \$16,092,901 for the year, as compared with \$36,842,970 for 1920, or an improvement in the operating result of \$20,750,068.

The construction and betterment program for 1922, Mr. Kennedy announced, was necessarily curtailed. In the West alone, construction was projected which would entail an expenditure of \$25,000,000, but in view of the financial condition of the country and the impending reorganization of national lines it had been thought advisable to keep the construction program to a minimum.

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Dark Brown Leghorns, \$5 per 15. Light
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YORKSHIRES, REGISTERED. SIRE
grand champion, Brandon, 1920. Best of
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cipality; splendid condition; paying well;
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Departmental News from the Capital

By the Publicity Commissioner, Government Building, Edmonton

A number of new appointments of importance to the farming and irrigation interests of Alberta have just been made by George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture. From now on all agricultural agents will be under the direct control of S. G. Carlyle, Provincial Livestock Commissioner.

W. J. Stevens has been appointed commissioner of field crops, and will occupy the position formerly held by the superintendent of the seed and weed branch of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Stevens was for a number of years principal of the Claresholm agricultural school, and has made a special study of the marketing and growth of seeds.

C. D. McMillan, at present in charge of the demonstration farm at Stoney Plain, will act as agricultural agent, with headquarters at Stoney Plain.

G. W. Fletcher, in charge of the demonstration farm at Athabasca Landing, will also act as agricultural agent for that part of the country, with headquarters at the farm.

H. W. Scott, who has been the agricultural agent of the Sedgewick country for a number of years, will continue to act in that capacity at the Sedgewick demonstration farm.

R. Austin, who has been in charge of the demonstration farm connected with the agricultural school of Gleichen and lecturing on livestock at the institution, will now also act as agricultural agent of that district.

M. L. Freng, who has been in charge of the branch of the Agricultural Department at Lethbridge for some years and has made a specialty of irrigation, will continue to act as agricultural agent, stationed at Lethbridge.

With the purpose of giving the highest class of service available, states Mr. Hoadley, Prof. Murray, lately in charge of the Noble Foundation, and recognized as one of the best agricultural experts in Canada, has been secured to act as agricultural agent in the drought area with headquarters at Medicine Hat.

Mr. Freng is noted as an irrigation expert, and working in conjunction with Prof. Murray, these two men are expected to render splendid service to the dry country of this Province.

Members to Study Departments.

Premier Greenfield is planning to put into effect a scheme whereby the members of the Government side in the Legislature will be able to study the workings of the various departments of the Government in a more intensive way. These members have left with Premier Greenfield the task of grouping them into different groups, each group to take up the study of one department, and to hold meetings with the minister in charge of that department. This suggestion was made by the members themselves.

With a view to the permanent improvement of field crops in Alberta, the Department of Agriculture has prepared a list of farmers in the Province who have good seed for grains and grasses. Copies of this list are available at the office of the seed and weed branch in the Department of Agriculture.

The municipal hospitals branch is to extend assistance to the Taber hospital to enable it to carry on. This has been decided after an investigation conducted by A. K. Whiston, supervisor of organization, at the request of the Taber hospital authorities.

—:o:—

FEDERAL LOAN OF \$100,000,000

A Dominion Government loan of \$100,000,000 has been negotiated in New York. J. P. Morgan & Co., who floated the loan, received 2½ per cent. commission, or \$2,500,000. This announcement was made in the House of Commons recently by the Minister of Finance.

—:o:—

FREE FREIGHT CEASED APRIL 30th

Free shipment of feed to points in Southern Alberta ceased on April 30th, and no more certificates will be granted.

—:o:—

THE ELIMINATION OF CREAM BUYING STATIONS AND THE FUTURE OF DAIRYING.

(Continued from Page 5)

Deterioration in Grades

The producer of cream has the direct choice of three grades. In 1917, Alberta butter reached the highest point of quality in the history of the industry here. But since that year there has been a very serious deterioration in grade. This is shown by figures produced by the dairy commissioner, which give the percentage of total butter graded by the Government which reached the "specials" grade and the percentage which fell into the medium and lower grades, as follows:

Year	Specials	Firsts	Seconds	Off-grades
1917	56.3	36.3	6.7	.7
1918	50.4	38.6	10.3	.5
1919	29.7	50.8	18.9	.6
1920	19.0	55.6	24.7	.6
1921	7.7	66.7	24.7	.7

According to the 1921 report of the Department of Agriculture, the following average prices were realized in the marketing of creamery butter by the Department to the wholesale trade during the past season. The percentage of butter in each grade is also shown:

Special grade	6.66%	37.9c per pound
First	" 67.17"	34.8 "
Second	" 26.16"	32.2 "

Average price 34.4 cents per pound.

The foregoing figures show clearly that unless an immediate and determined effort is made to increase the production of high grade butter, the "special grade" markets that have been available to us in the past may, to a large extent, be obliged to look elsewhere for supplies. It certainly would be poor business on the part of the dairymen of Alberta deliberately to choose the lower grade and the lower price markets as an outlet for their surplus dairy products.

It will be seen then that while in 1917 more than half the butter graded reached the highest grade, yet in 1921 the percentage of high grade butter had dropped

to 7.7, and there had been a consequent increase in the quantity of low grade butter. It is true that the amount of butter graded totalled only 50 per cent of the total output of the Province, but it is pointed out that this 50 per cent is the portion of the total production that went to outside markets, the other half of the total production largely having found home consumption.

Who Is Responsible?

Where has the fault been? Does the responsibility really rest with the producer? Other figures produced by the dairy commissioner will show that the responsibility does lie with the producer directly. Out of a total of 7,853 churnings graded in the year 1921, 50 per cent of them showed more or less stale cream flavor.

The creameries had nothing directly to do with that, excepting insofar as they failed to express grades. Taking it by and large, the work of the creameries and of the mechanical end of the industry has kept up to standard through all these years. The fault has been with the flavor. Other figures will show how the matter of quality has been neglected at the very time when it should have received attention. In May and June of last year, when the market was rather slack, 14.9 per cent of the butter graded was marked "special" and 16.6 per cent marked "seconds." But in July, when the market picked up, when orders began to come in, only 3.6 of the total graded was marked "special" while the percentage of low grade butter had increased to 33.5 per cent. This can be taken to mean only one thing, that when the market was dull, and in danger, attention was paid to quality, but when the market was brisk and there was good demand, quality to a large extent was neglected.

Nothing But Best Will Suit Consumer

Producers of cream should be seized with the all-important fact that their ultimate market, the market they must be careful to cultivate, is not the buyer of their cream, but the ultimate purchaser of the butter made from that cream. In the past many cream producers have become imbued with the notion that once they have disposed of their cream to the cream buyer, their troubles are over. Perhaps they have obtained a relatively good price for a poor grade of cream and they go home satisfied. But that is only a temporary advantage. The road to continued success is longer than that. It stretches right down to the door of that discriminating personage, the ultimate consumer of the butter, and nothing but the best will suit him. The marketing of a quantity of low grade cream very soon finds its reflection in a lowered standard of butter, and a consequent falling off in price for cream. The producer cannot continue to be careless of his quality of cream. He suffers in the long run, for the price reflection follows all the way back up the line from the butter consumer to the cream producer. It is only by persistently giving attention to production of quality cream that the producer can be assured of continued top prices for his product. It is not the cream buyer who controls the price of cream. That price is controlled by the supply and demand for quality butter.

Now what has been the experience of other Provinces in this matter? The Department of Agriculture has received information from both Saskatchewan and

Any one of these Reasons puts the De Laval in a class by itself—



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Manitoba, as to their experiences. The Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture says: "Closing of buying stations has already shown marked improvement on quality of butter. Affords more effective and less expensive instructive and educational work from the dairy branch. Absolutely no demand on the part of producers or creamery operators to re-open the stations."

Manitoba says: "Increase of twenty-five per cent in the output of No. 1 creamery butter from some creameries since the closing of the stations a year ago. There is no request for re-opening."

The Department of Agriculture of Alberta is confident that the step has been taken, which will bring the results. It is prepared to co-operate in any way it deems possible to aid the producer in improving the quality of his cream and getting the best price possible for the product.

Alberta butter of the best quality has never failed to hold its own in competition with the butter of other countries. There is abundant proof of this in the fact that at eleven of the largest exhibitions in Canada, Alberta butter took 50 per cent of all prizes, and 69 per cent of all first prizes.

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CAUSES OF DEPRESSION IN AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

(Continued from Page 7)

tion to purchase all the goods it produces. This ratio is not altered if the complication of international exchange is introduced, as, of course, it must be; if the community cannot purchase the goods it produces, neither can it purchase their equivalent. Credits are issued to manufacturers by a banker on the assumption that their enterprises will yield a profit—in other words, that the goods produced will be sold at not less than an inclusive price. But since therefore the community itself cannot buy them, the individual manufacturer is bound either to seek markets abroad for his surplus stocks or to produce such intermediate products (factory buildings, machinery, etc.), as can be handed on profitably to other producers, who are in turn faced with the problem of getting rid of their products. The difficulties of obtaining foreign markets and the falling-off in purchasing at home are the causes of the present crisis. The world is not suffering from under-production; the most pressing problem, as every manufacturer knows, is to find customers to take the glut of goods. Nor is the world suffering from over-production, since most people, even in this country, are unable to buy half the things that they need. In other words, it is not production but distribution that has broken down."

Crux of the Problem—Bookkeeping

Thus, the reviewer indicates, the crux of the whole problem is that the consumer cannot possibly obtain, until certain readjustments are made, a sufficient supply of purchasing power to buy back the equivalent in value of the goods produced in industry. The obstacles to distribution are, he contends, essentially bookkeeping obstacles merely. The interest on money advanced to producers must be paid by consumers in the prices of their purchases, but the money they have received, in the form of wages, salaries, and dividends, is necessarily insufficient to meet these charges.

THE PROBLEM OF ROAD BUILDING IN ALBERTA.

(Continued from Page 3)

can only undertake so much construction each year. We have a duty to our pioneer settlers that must be met before such an expensive program as that contemplated by our predecessors can be undertaken. If a new program were filed at Ottawa making it possible to earn grants on both classes of roads, it would better meet the needs of a new Province like Alberta. Our policy in regard to the Federal grant is, therefore, undecided, but while our future program is being arranged construction will be resumed this spring, as usual, on extension work.

More Permanent Roads

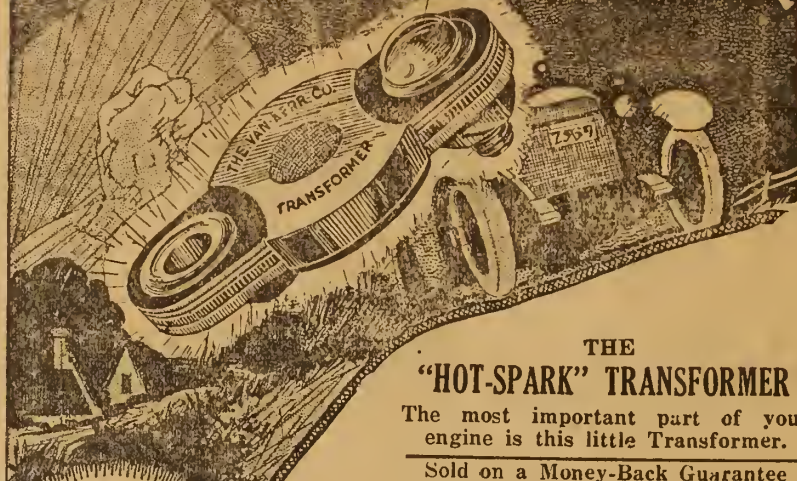
While we are considering our future policy with a view to securing the Federal grant we ought to be giving serious thought to the best method of building roads of a more permanent character. We should aim at building "all weather roads" as speedily as our finances will permit us. Clay roads should be regarded as a temporary expedient rather than as a complete system. Some experiments are now being made in order to ascertain how local materials can best be utilized for that purpose. Alberta seems to be lacking in suitable material, or it would be more correct to say that we have the best of material, but the cost of transporting it renders it, at least for the present, prohibitive. There is an unlimited supply of rock that could be crushed, and we have also large deposits of gravel. It is possible that we may be able to discover a suitable mixture of clay and sand to make a surface which will withstand traffic or wet weather. Then, we have yet to ascertain the potentialities of the tar sands. However distant road surfacing may be in Alberta, we ought to prepare for it now by building a road bed ready to receive it. The road bed should be of suitable dimensions with easy grades, and most important of all, properly drained. Small sections of roads have been gravelled, where the material could be conveniently obtained, with the most satisfactory results. Besides the many disadvantages of clay roads the cost of maintenance is an expensive factor; they require constant care and attention. During the last few years our main highways have cost approximately \$30 per mile for dragging alone, and our total budget for the year, including bridges, is over \$2,000,000.

The New Highways Act

In preparing the act passed at the last Session of the Legislature we realized the need for a more careful study of the problems arising out of the construction of roads in order to get value for our ever increasing expenditure by making provision for the appointment of a commission, the members of which will devote their whole time to a general survey. It was felt that as good roads are so vital to the life of the people in this Province, some organization should be set up which could give more time to the study of our road problems than could be given by the Department. The commission will be appointed in the near future, and before the end of this year, we hope, will be able to make recommendations as to our future policy.

In some respects the new act is similar to the Highways Act of 1918, the terms of which were never applied. Roads are classified in much the same way, i.e. roads are divided into four divisions:

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Main Highways, Market Roads, Local Roads and Colonization Roads. Although the classification is similar, the administration is entirely different. Main highways will now be built and maintained entirely by the Government instead of, as formerly, by a joint contribution. The municipalities will, therefore, be relieved from all direct financial obligation in connection with these roads. Market roads will be built by the municipalities. Formerly they were sometimes built by the Government, but there seemed to have been no definite policy in this respect, with the result that Provincial funds were spent indiscriminately. The municipal districts will now be entrusted with this work, aided by Provincial grants, subject to the direction and supervision of the Departmental staff.

Measure of District Autonomy

This is a measure of autonomy which the municipal districts will appreciate, as they are just as capable in carrying out a road program as the Department, provided we supply the necessary technical advice. Judging by the correspondence which I have received on this subject there appear to be many people who are opposed to this form of decentralization of authority in road building, but we must not forget the municipal districts were organized originally for that purpose. Should we decide to try and qualify for the Federal aid grant on market roads the policy of making the municipalities responsible for building these may have to be abandoned, and we may have to assume the responsibility as one of the conditions under which a grant will be given.

Local roads, that is roads not generally used but used for local traffic only, will be built and maintained by the municipalities. Our fourth classification, colonization roads, comprises roads that may have to be built through unsettled territory in order to provide service for settlers who have been compelled for various reasons to select land far removed from our present utilities.

Stupid Land Settlement Policy

The cost of providing service to the people of this Province is exceptionally high and one of the main reasons is due to the fact that we have followed in the past a stupid land settlement policy. Accessible land has become the property of private speculators and held by them at a price prohibitive to the average land seeker, thereby compelling people to settle on cheaper land but far removed from reasonable service. The demand for service from these isolated communities is a constant drain on the Provincial exchequer. Alberta seems to have had to meet the condition of widespread settlement in a much more aggravated form than the other two prairie provinces. Settlement has reached farther north in Alberta, probably owing to the fertility of the land, but chiefly because we have navigable rivers which enabled settlers to explore.

The north and west parts of the province also present another difficulty to the road builder, owing to the large number of rivers, creeks and coulees which have to be bridged. Here again we are handicapped for the lack of suitable materials for building bridges. We have lumber close at hand, but not always of the quality necessary for that purpose. Bridges built of lumber have a short life, and while they last, require to be kept in constant repair.

Replacement of Bridges

The Province has spent over \$5,500,000 since 1905, and over \$3,000,000 in wooden bridges, many of which will have to be replaced. It is estimated that we will have to commence with bridges built in 1905, and gradually replace them, in addition to building new ones each year. Our large bridges are built of steel capable of carrying a load of twenty tons; their initial cost is greater, but steel is more economical in the end, as the cost of maintenance is much less and they will last about three times as long as wooden bridges. There is a constant demand for bridges each year, far more than the Province could undertake to build. Our policy is to set aside a reasonable appropriation each year and build those bridges that are most urgently required.

\$1,000,000 on Ferry Service

In addition to supplying bridges, we have spent almost \$1,000,000 in providing a ferry service. There are sixty-five ferries operated by the Province, at an annual cost of \$90,000. Both the ferry service and the road building extend from the extreme North to the extreme South. We are operating a ferry service at Fort Vermilion, 650 miles north of the international boundary, and also have a crew of men keeping the portage in repair at Smith Portage, 800 miles north of the international boundary, part of which extends into the North-west territories.

I have attempted to give a brief review of road building in Alberta and some of its attendant problems. There are many phases of the question which I have not touched. While we ought to be concerned chiefly with roads that will encourage the basic industry of the Province, we should not overlook the value of attracting tourists. We need a closer settlement of the Province in order to reduce our operating expenses, and there is no better way of attracting people to the Province than to supply good roads for tourist traffic. We have the National Park at Banff where thousands visit every year by motor from all over the continent. We have also the fertile valley of the Saskatchewan, and the magnificent scenery of the North country, not yet accessible to our visitors, except by rail.

:o:

NEW GOVERNMENT FARM.

The new Government farm just north of Edmonton, which will be connected with the new home for mental defectives, is to be under cultivation this year. Of the 1,000 acres included in the farm 400 will be cultivated this year.

The Holstein herd at the Stoney Plain farm will be moved to this farm, and later the poultry demonstration plant, so that when the new home for mental defectives is completed, there will be a ready supply of the best milk and eggs, two of the chief articles of diet for patients in such a home. Work on the new home is to start this year.

SUBJECT FOR JUNE DEBATE

Material for a debate on the transfer of the Natural Resources to the Western Provinces is available at Central Office. It is suggested that Locals which have not already outlined a complete program should hold debates on this subject during the month of June. The material has been issued by the Canadian Council of Agriculture. All applications for copies should be made to the U.F.A. Central Office.

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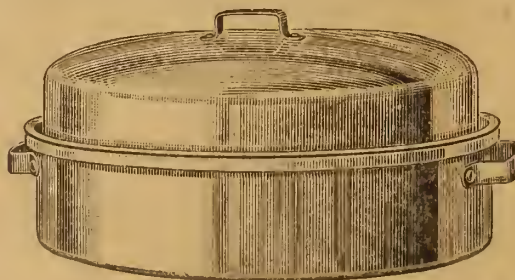
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LEGAL COLUMN.

In this column will be published in each issue answers to one or more legal queries. Members desiring to submit question to the U.F.A. Legal Department should do so through their Local Secretaries, who will give information as to conditions. It will not be possible to answer questions submitted by members in an individual capacity.

PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS.

Question: What steps are necessary in order to secure a patent for an invention?

Answer: Your application for patent should first be made to the Canadian Patent Office. By international agreement you are allowed a period of six months after completing your patent in Canada to make application in the U.S.A.; in the meantime your patent rights in the U.S.A. are protected.

For the Canadian application the following documents and drawings are required:

1. Petition for patent. This is purely a formal document, and can be prepared by a solicitor.

2. Affidavit of yourself, proving your invention. This can also be prepared by a solicitor.

3. Specifications in duplicate signed in the presence of two witnesses. For the purpose of drawing these specifications your solicitor would have to be fully familiar with the nature of your patent and would have to have a copy of the drawings mentioned below or be able to see a working model of your patent.

4. Drawings on cardboard eight by thirteen inches with tracings in duplicate bearing certificates signed by yourself as applicant in the presence of two witnesses. These drawings and tracings are very important, and in order that there may be no delay it is always advisable to have these prepared by some draughtsman who is familiar with the requirements of the Patent Office.

After the documents and drawings have been completed they should be filed in the Patent Office with the following fee: Full fee for 18 years, 60.00; partial fee for 12 years, 40.00; partial fee for 6 years, 20.00. If you wish to have the time extended you can always do so upon paying the extra fee. If you wish to do so, pending the preparation and filing of regular documents you can file a caveat setting out briefly the nature of your patent. This has the effect of preventing any infringement of your patent during the time that you are completing your application.

Marketing of Dairy Butter in Dominion

H. Higginbotham, Provincial Secretary, has been advised by H. E. Spencer, M.P., that a committee of Alberta Members interviewed the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa with respect to the following resolution, which was passed by the last Annual Convention:

"Resolved that all butter offered for sale shall have the name of the maker plainly written, printed or stamped on the paper wrapper, and that the proprietors of all stores or other places of business offering butter for sale be compelled to provide a sanitary place suitable for storage of such butter."

The report of J. A. Ruddick, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, on the first part of the resolution, is given below. The Minister pointed out that the second part should come under the Provincial Department of Health, and a copy of the resolution was therefore sent to the Minister of Health, at Edmonton. Mr. Ruddick's report follows:

Method of Branding

"The Dairy Industry Act and the regulations thereunder prohibit the branding or marking in any manner which will give false information as to the creamery in which it was manufactured.

"All dairy butter is required to be branded with the words 'dairy butter' as per Circular No. 12 attached. There is nothing to prevent any manufacturer of either creamery or dairy butter from adding his name and address to the marking. Practically all creameries do that. The matter of marking dairy butter was very carefully and fully considered in the framing of the Dairy Industry Act and the regulations thereunder.

"It was recognized at that time that the ideal arrangement would be to have the

manufacturer's name appear on all butter offered for sale, but it was argued that it would be a hardship to compel manufacturers of dairy butter to put their names and addresses on the wrappers. They would require to have wrappers specially printed and as many farmers have only a few pounds of butter to sell during the year such printing would be expensive. As it is now, 'stock' wrappers bearing the words 'dairy butter' are carried by country storekeepers and dealers in dairy supplies, and are sold in any quantity at comparatively low cost.

"The sanitation of places where butter is stored and kept for sale would seem to be a matter which comes under the jurisdiction of local Boards of Health and could not very well be dealt with by federal authority.

"The dairy branch has given a good deal of attention to the improvement of such places by publishing bulletins containing plans for suitable storage chambers for the use of merchants and others who handle butter. The temperature at which the butter is held is probably more important in its preservation than any other condition."

Would Promote Greater Freedom of Members

In the recent session of the Alberta Legislature a resolution expressing the desire of the Assembly that the Government should not consider the defeat of a Government measure as a reason for resignation, unless followed by a vote of want of confidence was carried by an overwhelming majority. The certainty that an effort may be made in the Federal House to apply the principle of this resolution is indicated in the following extract from a speech by William Irvine, Labor member for East Calgary, in the debate on the address, and in a resolution of which he has given notice:

"The greatness of the British Constitution, it may be said, lies in the fact that it is not fixed; that is, it possesses the elasticity of life. It has that most necessary quality, adaptation; and it has always in the past been able to accommodate itself to the changes that have taken place in industrial life. To-day we are called upon to do for the twentieth century what our forefathers did for the centuries that have preceded us—to modify the system of government in such a way as to make it practicable for Labor groups and Farmer groups to co-operate with any other kind of group in the best interests of this country. I suggest that the Government move in that direction by not considering the defeat of a Government measure the defeat of the Government. Remove that condition of defeat when a Government measure is voted down, and members will be free to deal with the various issues coming before them according to their merits. It might also help to do away to some extent with what is called the 'official' opposition. The 'official' opposition is rather a strange thing to those of us who have been witnessing it in operation for the first time.

"I know of no place either in the world of matter or in the biological world where opposition exists for its own sake, except in Parliament, and there we do find it established seemingly for its own sake. We do not need to cultivate that opposition which is justified by progress. That is a spontaneous thing; it springs from the very nature of the issue itself. Moreover, it is constructive, because its ultimate aim is the discovery of the truth. But the oppositions of Parliament have one by one degenerated into a cantankerous negation, more intent on casting slurs on the administration than upon cultivating a positive body of opinion which can be substituted in some instances for good advice."

Mr. Irvine has given notice of his intention to move the following resolution:

"That, in the opinion of this House, a defeat of a Government measure should not be considered a sufficient reason for the resignation of the Government, unless followed by a vote of lack of confidence."

IMPORTATION OF ALFALFA

In order to prevent the introduction into Canada of the Alfalfa Weevil, which is a serious pest in certain sections of the United States, the Dominion Government has amended the Destructive Insect and Pest Act. The new regulations provide that all shipments of alfalfa or lucerne hay must be accompanied by a certificate stating the county and state in which the hay was grown; importation from counties and states in which the pest is prevalent is prohibited.

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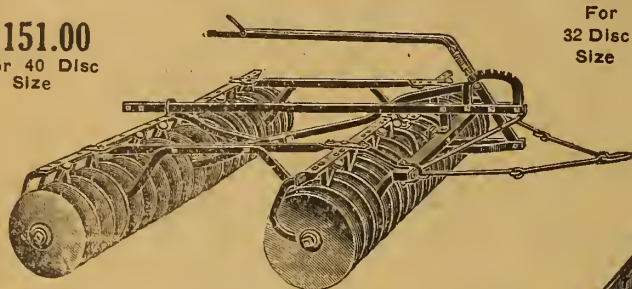
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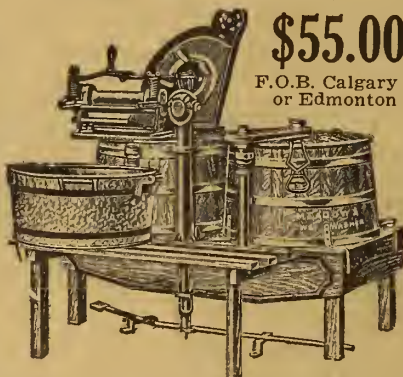
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